

Angelo State University ● Magazine

Fall 2012 • Volume 5 • Number 3

MEMBER, TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY SYSTEM

Behind the Scenes

Grounds
to Impress

Campus
Superheroes

Hard at Play

Connecting
the Dots



Message

from the President

Dear Friends:

The summer of 2012 was again busy on campus as we hosted more than 2,000 students for summer school classes and nearly 8,000 others for a variety of camps and leadership clinics. So, in spite of continued drought conditions, which limited our ability to water our plants and trees, the campus was abuzz with activity and energy.

As I regularly note, universities are really small cities because of all the services that they must provide to residents and visitors alike. ASU certainly fits that role since all we are missing is a fire house and its associated fire engines and pumpers! But what really defines a city is the variety of talented employees who work to keep the lights on, the offices open and the grounds immaculate. Because their important role on campus is sometimes taken for granted, we decided to highlight ASU “behind the scenes” for this issue of the magazine. Here you will visit underground ASU, where our heating, cooling and water are managed; meet our academic department secretaries, who provide exceptional support to faculty and students alike; and connect with our Intramurals Program staff, who field hundreds of teams in sports ranging from badminton to ultimate Frisbee. Clearly, the success of ASU is defined by the enthusiasm, professionalism and hard work of these dedicated individuals.

Cities are also defined by their leadership, and after three national searches ASU has filled several important positions over the past few months. First, Dr. Brian May was selected as the permanent Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs. Dr. May previously had been the Dean of Graduate Studies and a Professor of Animal Science at ASU. Second is our new Vice President for Student Affairs and Enrollment Management, Dr. Javier Flores, who previously served as Provost of Howard College’s Big Spring campus. Most recently, Sean Johnson joined ASU from Division I University of North Dakota to assume the position of Athletic Director, following the retirement of Kathleen Brasfield. The leadership of these individuals will be essential to the ability of ASU to meet its 10,000 student goal by 2020.

I hope that you enjoy this issue as we highlight those “unsung” heroes who make ASU such an exceptional place.

Sincerely,



Joseph C. Rallo
President



Joseph C. Rallo



Angelo State University Magazine

Fall 2012

Vol. 5, No. 3

Angelo State University

Member, Texas Tech University System

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Angelo State University Magazine

The Angelo State University Magazine
is published three times a year by the
ASU Office of Communications and Marketing,
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Editor's Note: In this issue, ASU Magazine
looks behind the mask, so to speak, at ASU
people and offices outside the classroom that
make the university successful.

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On the Cover: Numerous activities – such as the welding of Ray Simmons – go on behind the scenes to make for a great college experience at Angelo State. (Photo by Danny Meyer)



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Ongoing Influence

Though his tenure as Angelo State University president will end this fall, Dr. Joseph C. Rallo will continue to shape the direction of the university in his new position as vice chancellor of academic affairs for the Texas Tech University System.

During his ASU tenure of five-plus years, Rallo has helped reshape the university by tying fiscal resources more closely to strategic plans, envisioning ASU as a residential campus, expanding academic programs and increasing external funding, both through federal grants and private fundraising.

At the top of his list of accomplishments since he took over on June 1, 2007, Rallo puts instilling a sense of competitive purpose for the campus.

"I have no tolerance for whining and lack of competitiveness," Rallo said. "What bothered me when I arrived was the attitude that 'we're in West Texas and no students will come out here. Therefore, we just need to be happy with what we get.' Just making do with what we had was just unacceptable. We have a great resource here; we have an attractive resource here; so hopefully again we have begun to change that type of thinking."

That competitiveness can be measured in an increase in enrollment, 13.5 percent between his first fall in 2007 and the fall of 2011, as well as a more than tenfold increase in external grant funding from approximately \$300,000 to more than \$3.9 million. Those successes are manifestations of his strong commitment to strategic planning.

"In my previous life as an intelligence officer," Rallo said, "I was basically paid to predict the future. People laugh at you when you say that, but you can predict the future once you can identify some variables.

So, I have always believed in strategic planning, which is future-oriented, but I've also believed it should be a living document.

"What has made it more interesting is that in higher education, oftentimes, we do straight-line extrapolations, if you will. We assume the year 2020 is going to look like the year 2012. That can be a dangerous assumption and that is one of the things, particularly in my new job, that I am trying to convey to the board. There are trends out there that are very troubling and that are not a repetition of what was."

For instance, some major institutions such as Massachusetts Institute of Technology have started offering free online courses, and some such as the University of Wisconsin system and Northern Arizona University are offering online coursework and creating exams to test for competency. Both Wisconsin and Northern Arizona have just announced that if you take those free, open software courses and pass their tests, they will turn that into credit or competency.

"To me, the greatest challenge is that universities right now have a monopoly because we offer credit and we offer accreditation," Rallo said. "But, if both of those go away or if they change, then we have a huge issue, particularly if employers start saying they don't really care if your degree is accredited or not, but rather if you have the competency to do the job. That, to me, is the largest challenge we face.

"Now, you're always going to have bricks-and-mortar universities and you're always going to have Princeton, Harvard and Yale, but most of us are not in that league. So, what happens if a quarter of the students who would have come to Angelo State or Texas Tech decide to pursue a

different alternative? That's a huge, huge potential stumbling block and the largest challenge out there right now."

Rallo believes that Angelo State remains a powerful educational option because of its demographic with a large majority of enrollees being first-generation college students, and its ability to help those students succeed.

"I have been at places, like the Air Force Academy, Rutgers and others with a different demographic," Rallo said. "Here what I like is the fact that the vast majority of students who come here, come here not because they feel entitled, but rather because they recognize the opportunity the university offers. That's where I think this university really shines. It really can transform a young man or young woman from some small town with few opportunities and, because of the smaller size and the interactions with faculty, really provide them the opportunity to succeed. That's what I think really is a positive side of the Angelo State culture."

As he looks forward to his new role, Rallo looks back with fondness on his tenure at Angelo State and his time in San Angelo. That familiarity with both the campus and the community will be an asset in his position as vice chancellor for academic affairs.

"The message I want to convey to Angelo State and San Angelo is that I know I can, by moving to the Texas Tech System, still be a strong, in fact if the system grows, probably an even stronger advocate for the future of this campus than as a component president. I've loved what I've done, I've enjoyed what I've done and I will always have a special place in my heart for Angelo State. Leaving doesn't always mean you leave, it simply means that you go somewhere else to look after things." ■



the Rallo Legacy

Over his five-year tenure as Angelo State University's fourth president and the ninth since the institution began as a community college, Dr. Joseph C. Rallo has helped reshape ASU's future.

These are a baker's dozen of his accomplishments since he began work on June 1, 2007:

- Instilled a sense of competitive purpose for the campus, elevating ASU in most rankings for Texas public universities.
- Broadened the national recognition and reputation of ASU through listings in publications, including *Princeton Review's* annual "Best Colleges" edition and *U.S. News and World Report's College Guide* for least student debt.
- Created *Angelo State University Magazine* to provide a quality publication to tell the ASU story.
- Established the ASU Multicultural Center with its related programming.
- Enhanced significantly ASU's study abroad opportunities and created the Center for International Studies.
- Achieved Hispanic Serving Institution status, broadening ASU's ability to compete for significant U.S. Department of Education Title V funds, resulting in \$8 million in grants to date.
- Developed a federal funding presence with the Center for Security Studies.
- Created a true "residential" campus with significant operating hours and enhanced ASU facilities, including two new residence halls, a renovated Porter Henderson Library and an expanded and enhanced student recreation center.
- Expanded the ASU Office of Development, resulting in ongoing success with ASU's first capital campaign and with three endowed faculty chairs funded at the \$1 million level.
- Worked with the City of San Angelo to position ASU as a partner and economic engine for the community.
- Established new academic programs to meet emerging employer demand, including a B.S. in nursing as well as language and culture degrees, security studies degrees, ag education degree and computer game design program.
- Presided over steady enrollment growth with a 13.5 percent increase between 2007, his first fall on campus, and 2011, when enrollment surpassed 7,000 for the first time.
- Managed the transition of ASU from the Texas State University System to the Texas Tech University System, immediately upon his arrival on campus.

Facing the Future

As Angelo State University

charts its direction in the coming years, two new vice presidents – one a familiar face and the other a new face – will shape ASU's academic priorities and student affairs programs.

Dr. Brian J. May, a 1980 ASU graduate and 18-year faculty member on campus, has been named provost and vice president for academic affairs. He assumed the post on a permanent basis in April after serving 10 months as interim provost and three years as graduate dean. As provost and vice president, May is second in command for the university.

In July, Dr. Javier Flores, a Sonora native, became ASU's vice president for student affairs and enrollment management (SAEM) after spending the previous 13 years on the Big Spring campus of Howard College, his last two years there as provost. As vice president for SAEM, he will oversee Admissions, Financial Aid, Registrar, Housing and Residential Programs, and University Recreation and Intramurals.



Brian May

Familiar Face

Brian May is as comfortable at Angelo State as he is in his favorite cowboy boots, which fits his academic background in animal science, picking up both his B.S. and M.S. from the university in the discipline. He went on to earn his Ph.D. in ruminant nutrition from Texas A&M.

He joined the ASU faculty in 1994 with a dual appointment as a research scientist after spending seven years as executive director of the Mohair Council of America. He is the only person to have been president of both the ASU Faculty Senate and the Angelo State Alumni Association. He was a key player in the alumni association's successful effort in 2007 to make the university part of the Texas Tech University System.

On top of that, May is heavily involved in community activities, ranging from the San Angelo Livestock Show and Rodeo Association to the West Texas Boys Ranch,

and from the Sonrisas Therapeutic Riding Association to the San Angelo Chamber of Commerce, which named him "Citizen of the Year" in 2008.

"My community service will help me to continue the healthy relationship between our city and ASU," May said. "The City of San Angelo has always been a huge supporter of ASU, and I would like to grow this support through both development and employee/student involvement in civic organizations and activities."

Though his academic goals are multifaceted for ASU, May said they can be summarized in six overriding aims: 1) to grow all

programs, both graduate and undergraduate, that focus on the university's strengths; 2) to hire a diverse, engaging faculty and staff to deliver the best education possible; 3) to excel in community involvement of faculty, staff and students; 4) to diversify ASU course delivery, both through face-to-face and online offerings; 5) to increase graduation rates and reduce student debt burdens; and 6) to improve retention rates, especially at the freshman level through the newly created Freshman College.

"The biggest challenge we face as an institution of higher education," said May, "is the continuing struggle to find financial support to fund existing programs at a high level as well as to start new programs. Our local representatives are huge supporters of ASU and have helped us navigate through difficult economic times; however, these times are not over and there are many state agencies that need to find more efficient ways to become self-sustaining."

Even so, May welcomes the challenge, largely because of the sense of kinship he feels for the ASU family.

"All of my siblings, including my brother and both of my sisters, as well as my wife and daughter, graduated from Angelo State University," May said. "In addition to my relatives, the ASU community, including my classmates, my fellow alumni and my colleagues, has become for me a very large extended family. Through these relationships I have worked in concert with these friends and colleagues to build and change ASU, yet hold on to the sense of family and concern for others that makes this university special."

New Face

Javier Flores brings to ASU a familiarity with West Texas, both its culture and its demographics, that will be an asset in building co-curricular programs for students. Too, he is a first-generation college student, like more than half the Angelo State undergraduate enrollment, so he is familiar with the short-term challenges and the long-term rewards of a college education.

Though his father had no formal education and his mother dropped out in the ninth grade, they both valued education, which built upon the adage his maternal grandmother told him when he was young: "Si se puede" or "Yes, I can."

"Personally having overcome challenges and obstacles that life often throws any of us, regardless of whether we are first generation or not, I know that as long as you have the will and drive to be successful, it can happen," Flores said. "That is a message that I really want to keep repeating now and in the years to come."

Flores became the first in his family to earn a college degree with a B.A. in political

science with a Spanish minor from Texas Tech University. Though he originally planned to become a lawyer, his undergraduate involvement at Texas Tech with a variety of college organizations, including the Saddle Tramps spirit group, opened his eyes to the career potential in higher education and student affairs. Though his emphasis changed in graduate education, he still values his degree in political science.

"What happens in politics influences and impacts us in higher education tremendously, so I find it a necessity to remain informed as to what is happening in Austin, Washington and other states," Flores said.

He went on to earn a M.A. in educational management and development from New Mexico State University (NMSU) before returning to Texas Tech to earn an Ed.D. in administration of higher education.

He began his professional career at New Mexico Junior College in Hobbs, where he met his wife, Christy. Today, they have a 17-year-old son, Taybor. Both father and son are avid runners.

Flores next worked as a residence hall manager at NMSU before moving to Howard College as dean of student services in 1999. Three years later, he became vice president for student services at Howard. In 2010, he was appointed Howard's Big Spring campus provost, a position he held until beginning the ASU position in July.

As Angelo State's newest vice president, Flores' initial goal is to focus on enhancing retention so more students can enjoy the benefits of a college education, like he has pro-



Javier Flores

fessionally. Second, he wants to reach out to parents and engage them in their students' educational endeavors, either through regular newsletters or an organization for parents.

"Both short and long term," Flores said, "I would like to see Angelo State become a premier school for student affairs and enrollment management. I would like for others to be looking at what we are doing at Angelo State in terms of student affairs and enrollment management, and in terms of growing our enrollment and improving our graduation rates." ■

Meet Dominic

Angelo State students, alumni and fans will be seeing more of Dominic in the future with new line drawings that can be used for everything from sweatshirts to notebook covers to promotional materials.

Based on photographs by University Photographer Danny Meyer, the illustrations were done by Bill Hollweg of Bill Neil Specialty Advertising in San Angelo.

"The new marks," said ASU President Joseph C. Rallo, "reflect the dignity of our Rambouillet mascot, as well as show the ram's strength and determination. This is an emblem that will serve the university well in the coming years and provide additional options in representing ASU to the public."

Preston Lewis, director of communications and marketing at ASU, said the new marks will not replace the ASU logo, but rather be used as secondary representations for on-campus needs and commercial products.

"Brand consistency is important for long-term brand identification, but the new emblems will help provide some flexibility for use with the logo or without the logo, as long as the university name is included. Too, this will provide a professional look that will reflect favorably upon ASU, unlike some of the renegade ram representations which have sprung up over the last few years."

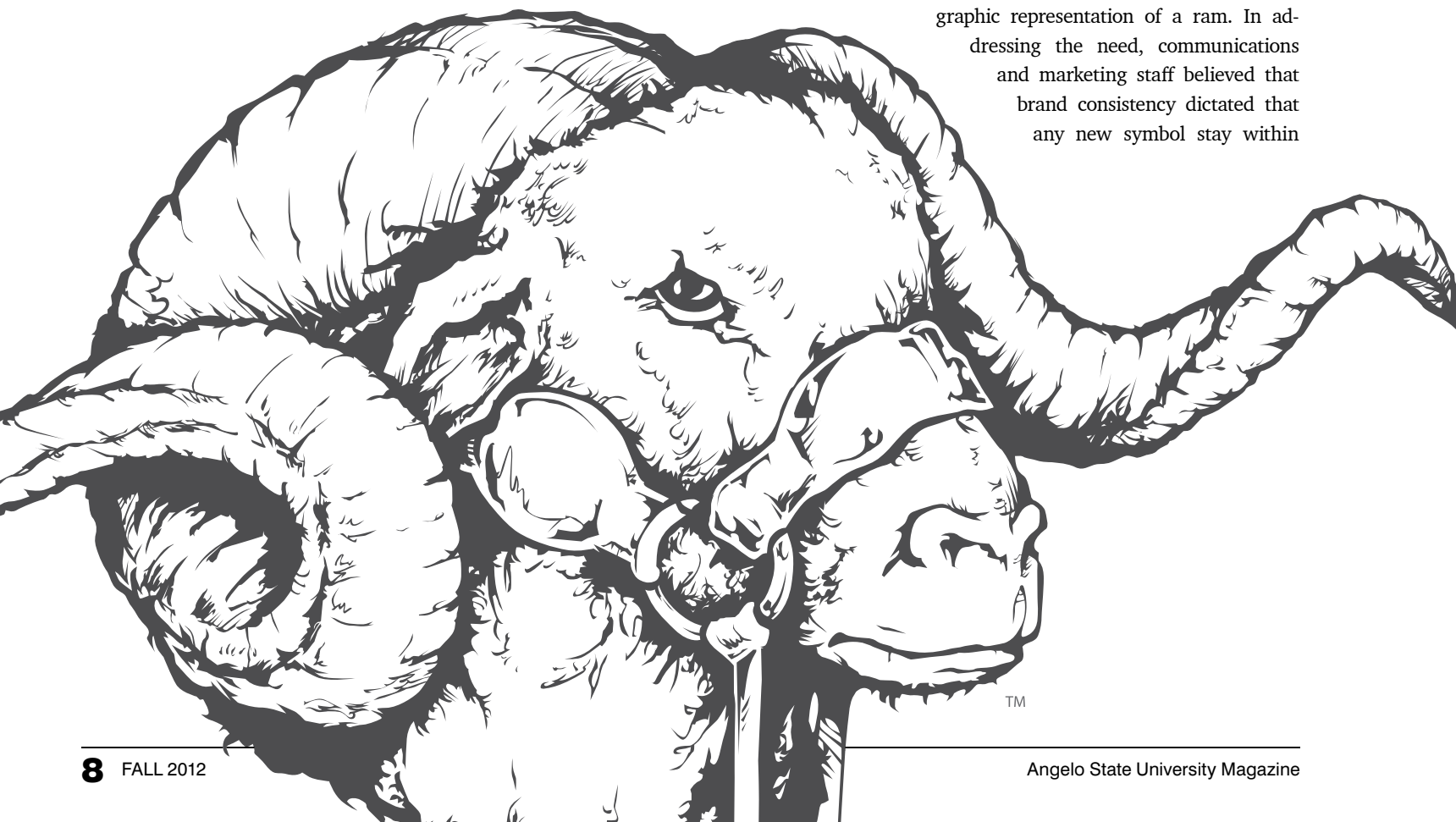
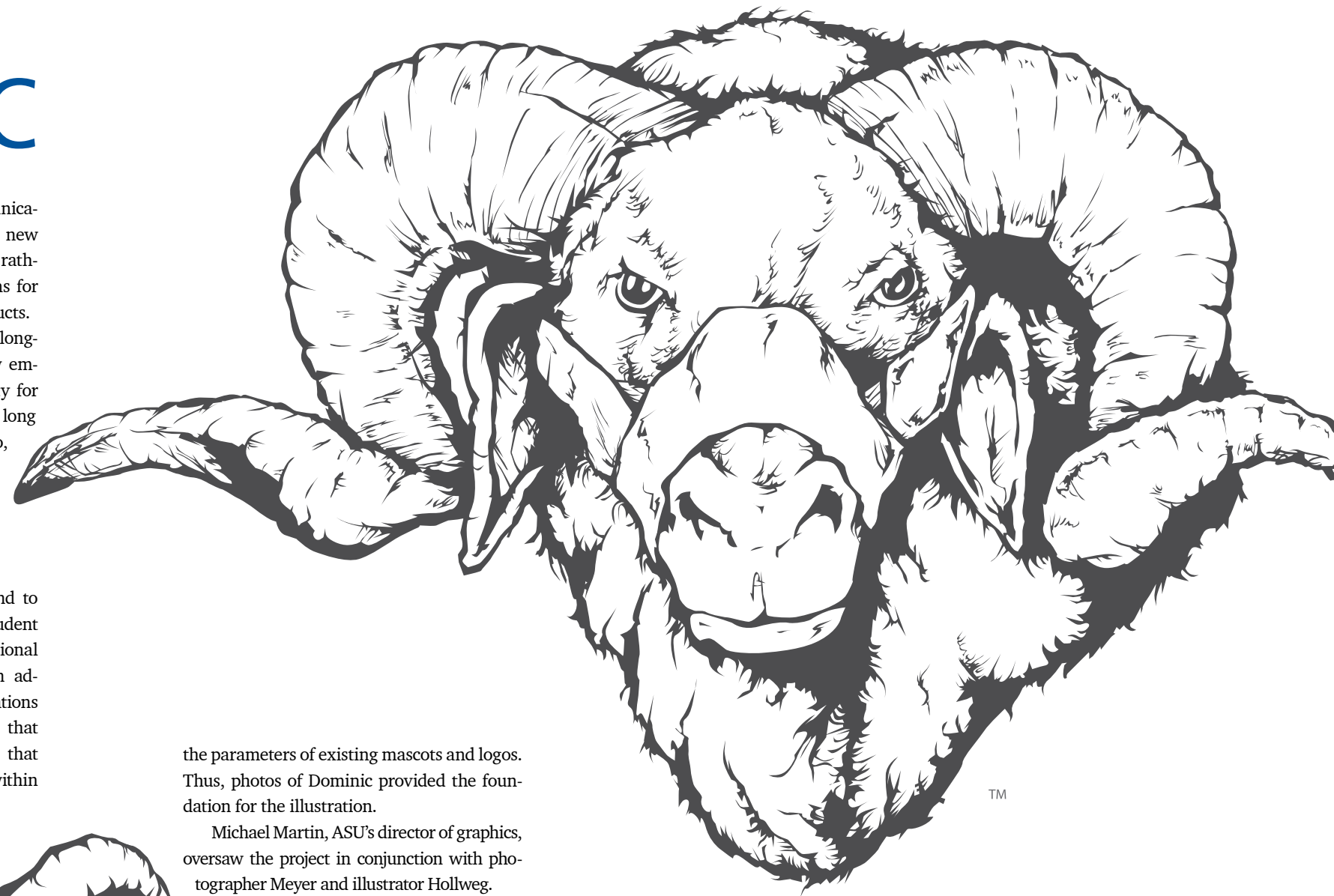
The new Dominic drawings respond to requests from individuals and the Student Government Association for an additional graphic representation of a ram. In addressing the need, communications and marketing staff believed that brand consistency dictated that any new symbol stay within

the parameters of existing mascots and logos. Thus, photos of Dominic provided the foundation for the illustration.

Michael Martin, ASU's director of graphics, oversaw the project in conjunction with photographer Meyer and illustrator Hollweg.

Lewis said acceptable university marks now include the logo itself, both with and without the university name; the stylized ram's horn "U;" the illustrations of Roscoe and Bella; and now the line drawings of Dominic. As of 2012, all of those marks have been trademarked or are in line to be trademarked for the university.

"The new Dominic mark," said Lewis, "provides a quality symbol that will represent ASU with the professionalism the public expects of a quality institution such as Angelo State." ■



With the latest NASA landing on Mars, the question still remains: Are we alone in the universe? Check out what NASA scientist and West Texas native Dr. Jack Farmer had to say about this as the 2012 WTMA Distinguished Lecturer in Science Honoring Dr. Roy E. Moon at www.angelo.edu/ASUMagazine.



Photo by Danny Meyer

Freshman College

A new Freshman College, approved in May by the Texas Tech University System Board of Regents for ASU, is designed to provide an organizational structure uniting the multiple academic initiatives and student support services to increase retention and graduation.

Dr. Andrew B. Wallace, longtime professor and head of the Physics Department, was named dean of the new college, which will provide greater emphasis on helping students gain the services and confidence necessary to complete their degrees.

The new college will oversee the First Year Experience program; summer bridge and transitional programs; Springboard ASU, the university's dual credit program; Supplemental Instruction program; tutoring programs through Students Mapping a Right Track; Freshman Orientation; University Convocation; and pre-declared advising.

Mayer-Rousselot Facility

The Texas Tech University System Board of Regents has approved the construction of a \$1.07 million agriculture training center to be named for the Mayer-Rousselot family, whose donation made the facility possible for Angelo State University's Management, Instruction and Research (MIR) Center.

The 4,372-square-foot Mayer-Rousselot Agriculture Educa-

tion Center will be built adjacent to the Food Safety/Product Development Lab at the MIR Center. The new project will provide needed facilities to enhance practical ag education and will include an open shop floor area for welding, small engine repair and general mechanical instruction. The facility will help meet the state's growing need for high school agriculture teachers.

Mayer-Rousselot family members contributed more than half of the construction cost. The contributing family members were Edwin and Billye Mayer with sons Steve and Ernie Mayer; Norm and Doris Rousselot with children Mark, Michelle and Renee; and Richard and Betty Mayer with sons John and Ken Mayer.

In addition to \$325,755 in Texas Higher Education Assistance Funds, other organizations and individuals contributing to the project were the Kickapoo Springs Foundation, ASU President's Circle, Pevehouse Foundation, Mr. and Mrs. Gary Stokes, Mrs. Eloise Russell, Porter Henderson Implement Company, Mr. and Mrs. Mike Frost, Dr. and Mrs. Brian May, *Livestock Weekly*, Dr. Jason Penry and an anonymous donor.

Natural History Grant

The university has been awarded a \$480,865 grant from the National Science Foundation (NSF) to upgrade the Angelo State Natural History Collections

(ASNHC) housed in the university's Biology Department.

The grant will fund a three-year project titled "Modernization and Digitization of the Angelo State Natural History Collections."

The primary goal of the project is to improve researcher and educator access to the 120,000 specimens of plants, mammals, birds, reptiles, amphibians and tissue samples in the ASNHC. The data associated with the specimens and digital images of plant specimens will be made available to researchers around the world.

Biology Bonanza

ASU's chapter of the Beta Beta Beta (Tri-Beta) biological honor society brought home several top awards from the Tri-Beta South Central Regional Meeting this spring.

Senior biology major Katelynn Frei was the big individual winner for ASU as she earned the Frank G. Brooks Award for Outstanding Undergraduate Research in Biology for her project presentation titled "Patterns of Habitat Use and Competition Between Nine-Banded Armadillos and Hog-Nosed Skunks."

In group contests at the regional meeting, the ASU chapter won first place in the Chapter History Competition and for Chapter Web Page Quality. During the business meeting portion, ASU's Josh McGuire was elected as the South Cen-

tral Region secretary for the 2012-13 academic year.

Additionally, ASU biology students Austin Osmanski, Paula Galloway, Christina Leto and Candace Frerich submitted research abstracts that were accepted for presentation at the Tri-Beta National Meeting.

In all, 18 ASU Tri-Beta students attended the regional conference along with faculty advisor Dr. Crosby Jones Jr. They competed against Tri-Beta representatives from 16 other universities in Texas, Oklahoma and Arkansas.

Meat Judging Triumph

ASU's Meat Judging Team won the overall championship at the Southeastern Intercollegiate Meat Judging Contest held in April at Ohio State University and the University of Kentucky, concluding the most successful season since the team began competing six years ago.

Against 17 other teams, all from Division I universities, ASU's team placed in the top 10 in each of the contest's seven categories to score 3,923 total points and win the overall title over runner-up University of Florida with 3,912 points.

By category, ASU placed first in Beef Grading and Overall Beef, second in Beef Judging and Specifications, fourth in Total Placings, sixth in Lamb Judging and seventh in Pork Judging. Individually for ASU, Caitlyn Van Slambrou placed

third out of 77 competitors with 992 points; Kameron Haecker, sixth; Will Meyer, ninth; Darren Seidel, 20th; and Kylee Weerland, 28th.

Other competing universities were Illinois, Michigan State, Iowa State, Missouri, Georgia, Ohio State and Kentucky. The Southeastern contest marked the end of the spring season for the ASU Meat Judging Team, which also placed fourth at the National Western contest in Denver and sixth at the Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo contest.

Writing Pearl

The Pearl of the Concho Writing Project (PCWP) has received a \$20,000 continuation grant from the U.S. Department of Education through the National Writing Project.

Dr. Marilyn Eisenwine and Dr. Marva Solomon of the teacher education faculty proposed the continuation grant, which will help fund the PCWP's Summer Writing Institute for 2012-13.

The Pearl of the Concho Writing Project is one of 10 National Writing Project sites in Texas, and since its inception in 2004 has trained more than 100 teachers to improve writing instruction in their classrooms.

Mass Comm Honors

ASU communication and mass media students were honored in 10 categories at the 2012 Texas Intercollegiate Press As-

sociation Convention this past spring in Corpus Christi.

The ASU contingent was led by former *Ram Page* Managing Editor Tim Lester, who took first place for information graphics. Receiving third place awards were former *Ram Page* Editor-in-Chief Scott Dykowski and Lester for a picture story, and former *Ram Page* co-Sports Editor Andy Atterbury for a sports column.

Seven honorable mention awards were also distributed to *Ram Page* and Ram TV staff.

PT Olympics

A team made up of 40 Angelo State University physical therapy students took first place at the 13th annual Texas Physical Therapy Olympics this spring at the University of Texas Health Science Center in San Antonio. The ASU squad finished first in softball, men's and women's basketball, and the wheelchair relay race on its way to compiling 75 points and winning the team championship.

Other physical therapy teams competing were from the University of Texas Medical Branch, University of Texas at El Paso, UT Health Science Center, Texas Woman's University-Dallas, TWU-Houston, Texas State University and U.S. Army-Baylor University. ■

Faculty Excellence Honorees

Dr. Michael T. Dixon of the Biology Department, Dr. Marilyn Eisenwine of the Teacher Education Department and Dr. Mansoo Ko of the Nursing and Rehabilitation Sciences Department have been named the winners of the 2012 ASU President's Awards for Faculty Excellence.

Dixon received the award for Faculty Excellence in Teaching. Eisenwine's award was for Faculty Excellence in Leadership/Service. Ko was the award winner for Faculty Excellence in Research/Creative Endeavor. Each received \$2,500 and Signature Presidential Recognition Awards. Dixon and Ko will be ASU's nominees for the Texas Tech University System Chancellor's Awards for Excellence in Teaching and Excellence in Research.

They and nominees from ASU's four academic colleges were honored at the third annual Faculty Recognition Dinner sponsored by the ASU Faculty Senate. Five semifinalist winners in each of the three categories were also announced, and each received a \$500 award.

Semifinalist winners in the Excellence in Teaching category, by department, were Dixon; Dr. Tom Badgett, Management and Marketing; Dionne T. Bailey, Mathematics and Computer Science; Dr. Carolyn Mason, Nursing and Rehabilitation Sciences; and Dr. Ned E. Strenth, Biology.

Excellence in Research/Creative Endeavor semifinalist win-

ners were Ko; Dr. Detelin Elenkov, Management and Marketing; Dr. Donna Gee, Teacher Education; Dr. Shawn Wahl, Communication, Mass Media and Theatre; and Dr. Amy Williamson, Curriculum and Instruction.

In the Excellence in Leadership/Service category, semifinalist winners were Eisenwine; Dr. Bonnie Amos, Biology; Lynne Hughes, Nursing and Rehabilitation Sciences; Dr. Mark Sonntag, Physics; and Dr. Andrew B. Wallace, Physics.

Presidential, Distinguished Awardees

Yolanda Fay Elias has been named recipient of ASU's 2012 Presidential Award as the top graduate in her class, while three other ASU undergraduate students were selected for 2012 Distinguished Student Awards from their respective academic colleges.

A Canadian citizen who came to ASU from Seminole, Elias was recognized at ASU's May commencement along with the three Distinguished Student Award honorees: Laura E. Hardin, College of Education; Emily Hendryx, College of Arts and Sciences; and Cathryn Rittenberry, College of Business.

A dual degree recipient, Elias was nominated by the Department of English and Modern Languages. She graduated with a B.A. in English with a Spanish minor and with a B.S. in mathematics with a computer science minor. She graduated

with highest university honors, and became the first Honors Program student to complete the Honors Thesis option.

A Bulverde native, Hardin was nominated by the Department of Teacher Education, where she majored in the early childhood through grade 6 generalist program. A mathematics major and physics minor from Alpine, Hendryx was nominated by the Department of Physics and the Department of Mathematics and Computer Science. An accounting major from Carthage, Rittenberry was nominated by the Department of Accounting, Economics and Finance.

Detelin Elenkov

Dr. Detelin Elenkov of ASU's business faculty was installed as president, effective at the end of the year, of the International Academy of Business and Economics (IABE) at the 2012 IABE Summer Conference in June in Venice, Italy.

A professor of international business in ASU's Department of Management and Marketing, Elenkov is the first holder of the Norris Family Chair in International Business that was established in December of 2007 through a \$1 million donation from the Lloyd Norris Family of San Angelo.

As IABE president, Elenkov will oversee and promote IABE's mission as the premier international scholarly academy for the exchange and advancement of research, teaching and

managerial best practices in all fields of business and economics. He has served IABE as vice president in 2010-11 and president-elect in 2011-12.

Arnoldo De León

War Along the Border: The Mexican Revolution and Tejano Communities, a book edited by Arnoldo De León of the history faculty, has received the Luciano Guajardo Award from the Webb County Heritage Foundation in Laredo.

The foundation presents the award "in recognition of efforts to promote awareness of the history, architecture or folklore of the region." De León received the award at the foundation's annual banquet in May at Texas A&M International University in Laredo.

War Along the Border was published by Texas A&M University Press and includes 13 essays by scholars in the field of borderland studies. In addition to De León's introduction, the book also includes an essay by Dr. John Klingemann, an assistant professor of history at ASU.

De León, ASU's C.J. "Red" Davidson Professor of History, is the author or editor of 20 major books and numerous articles on Mexican-American and Texas history. An ASU alumnus and faculty member since 1973, De León is considered one of the nation's preeminent scholars in the field of Mexican-American history.

Top Grad Students

The top graduate students from the university's four academic colleges were announced at the annual College of Graduate Studies Awards Banquet in April.

The honorees by major and college were Josh Tindell of Boerne, English, College of Arts and Sciences; Diana K. Steele of La Verne, Calif., animal science, College of Arts and Sciences; Cathryn Rittenberry of Carthage, integrated professional accountancy, College of Business; Jamie L. Robinson of San Angelo, school administration, College of Education; and Tara Niemann of Quincy, Ill., coaching, sport, recreation and fitness administration, College of Health and Human Services.

Toni Sauncy

Dr. Toni Sauncy of the physics faculty assumed duties Aug. 1 as interim director of the national Society of Physics Students (SPS) and the Sigma Pi Sigma physics national honor society.

Both SPS and Sigma Pi Sigma are components of the American Institute of Physics' (AIP) Education Division. Sauncy will succeed Dr. Gary White, who is leaving AIP for a temporary appointment as a program officer with the National Science Foundation.

As interim director, Sauncy will oversee the daily operation of SPS and Sigma Pi Sigma, including the production of

AIP's education publications – the *Journal of Undergraduate Research in Physics*, *The SPS Observer* and *Radiations*. She will also support outreach and service activities for society chapters, physics departments, AIP member societies and the public.

A tenured professor in the Physics Department, Sauncy has served as national SPS president since 2009. While employed by AIP, Sauncy will take a one-year unpaid leave of absence from ASU.

Abraham Morland

Abraham Morland of ASU's Air Force ROTC Det. 847 has been honored with the William Randolph Lovelace Memorial Award as the top Aerospace Studies 300 (junior-level) cadet in the Southwest Region.

The award is sponsored by the Air Force Association and is presented at the annual Arnold Air Society National Conclave, which was in April in Detroit. Morland was chosen for the award from 3,237 cadets in the Southwest Region, which contains 11 states and 36 Air Force ROTC detachments.

Karen Shumway

Dr. Karen Shumway, associate professor of management, has been named chair-elect of the Board of Commissioners – Baccalaureate/Graduate Degree Accreditation for the Accreditation Council for Business Schools and Programs (ACBSP).

Shumway's appointment is a three-year commitment, during which she will serve one year each as chair-elect, chair and then past chair. It includes service not only on the Board of Commissioners, but also on the ACBSP Board of Directors and as chair of the Nominating Committee.

Degree programs in ASU's College of Business are accredited by the ACBSP.

Shumway is also ASU's director of Academic Assessment and the Mr. and Mrs. Virgil J. Powell TSCRA Professor in American Economic Principles.

Physics Trio

Three Angelo State University physics students have been awarded prestigious scholarships by the national Society of Physics Students (SPS) organization for the 2012-13 academic year.

Blake McCracken, a senior physics major from San Angelo, is one of only three recipients nationally of the SPS Outstanding Leadership Scholarship and will receive \$3,000.

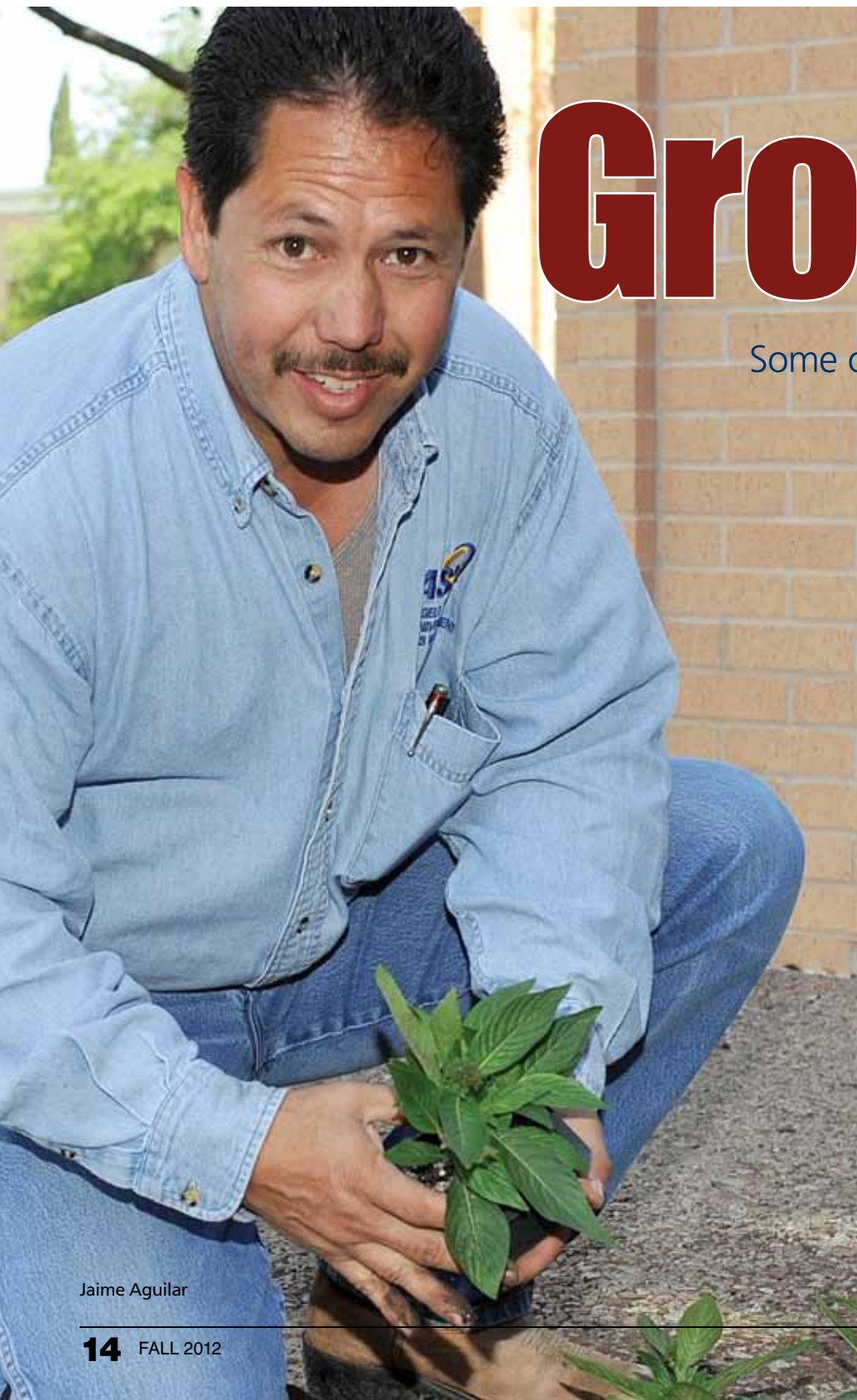
Dawn Olivia Popnoe, a senior applied physics/mathematics major from Florida, and David To, a senior applied physics/mathematics major from Lubbock, are two of only 14 national recipients of the SPS Leadership Scholarship and will each receive \$2,000.

Nursing Instructors

Three Angelo State University nursing instructors took third prize for their poster presentation at the International Nursing Association for Clinical Simulation and Learning's 11th annual conference in June in San Antonio.

Paul Osmanski, assistant clinical professor, and Jan Nichols and Betty Taylor, resource learning specialists, claimed third place out of 109 entries for their presentation titled "Student Feedback after Using Video Review during Simulation Debriefing." The basic premise of the poster was to illustrate students' feedback after watching videos of themselves working clinical sessions in ASU's High Fidelity Simulation Lab.

The \$750,000 High Fidelity Simulation Lab is housed in the Vincent Nursing-Physical Science Building. The lab features five computer-controlled mannequin simulators: two adults, one child, one baby and one woman who gives birth. Nursing instructors control the mannequins and supervise students caring for them during clinical instruction sessions. The mannequins can mimic almost every human condition, and can even "talk" to the students as instructors speak through them via the computer. ■



Jaime Aguilar

Grounds to Impress

Some of Angelo State University's

most persuasive recruiters do not work in the Office of Admissions, and they usually do not interact with prospective students, either.

The groundskeepers in the university's Grounds Maintenance division prefer to let the visual appeal of campus do all the talking. Grounds crew members are aware that they are responsible for making a strong first impression when prospective students and their families visit campus, said Jaime Aguilar, lead groundskeeper who has helped recruit students to ASU for 26 years.

"I like to take pride in what I do," Aguilar said. "We've gotten a lot of compliments from a lot of people. Some of them work here, and others are students who have stopped by, but it's good to hear that from everybody."

Keeping the campus attractive is a year-round responsibility, but is especially critical leading up to special events for new and prospective students, when the landscaping sets the tone for their whole campus experience.

"We try to get everything mowed out and cleaned up for events," Aguilar said. "At the same time, we get two or three people to come in over the weekend and clean up more trash that might be there, just to keep it looking presentable."

Picking up the trash is one of the grounds crew's most time-consuming chores, said Hal Peter, associate director of special services/grounds and custodial.

"It's a thankless job sometimes," Peter said, "but the guys are great. They know what they're doing. They know that they are the first impression of ASU."

With 12 groundskeepers dedicated to the main campus, each day brings different and sometimes challenging work duties. The grounds crew does everything from power washing the sidewalks and mowing the grass to watering and trimming trees and shrubs. Several crew members are also licensed to use herbicides and pesticides, which helps keep weeds under control and saves plants from insects.

An additional two groundskeepers work strictly on athletic facility maintenance. They maintain the swimming pool and manage all of the university's athletic fields, including mowing, fertilizing, painting and striping.

"We always let them know when we have recruits coming," said head softball coach Travis Scott. "The guys make sure the grass is in good shape, there's no trash, and everything is mowed and trimmed, which helps with recruiting."

Keeping the campus in prime recruiting shape is not an 8-to-5 job. Because some of the noisy equipment the grounds crew uses would be disruptive during classes and regular work hours, schedules are staggered so that some crew members come in as early as 4 a.m., another group arrives at 6 a.m. and a third group reports to work at 7:30 a.m. The



Hal Peter

Photos by Danny Meyer



staggered work schedules help prevent the inevitable traffic jam that would occur if all the groundskeepers began using equipment at the same time. Workers are also able to avoid having to work in the heat of the day during San Angelo's scorching summers.

The groundskeepers are also responsible for planting new bedding flowers in the fall and spring. The flowers add a splash of color and visual appeal to select high-traffic areas, including the entrances to the Mayer Administration Building and the Houston Harte University Center, near the Food Service Center and around "The Quest" monument visible from Johnson Street. Keeping the flowers alive and looking good is a distinctive challenge, even though groundskeepers only use hardy plants that can handle the heat.

"There are very few flowers that can handle the direct sun, the heat and the dryness of San Angelo," Peter said. "It's a hard climate to grow in."

The main climatic drawback besides the heat is limited rainfall, which often leads the City of San Angelo to enact watering restrictions. ASU staff understand how important it is that the university be a good steward of the city's public water supply.

"The biggest challenge is the water situation right now," said Jay Halbert, ASU facilities management director. "Trying to do what we do on the grounds with minimal water, and considering the high cost of water, and then trying to make everything look good, is difficult."



Drought conditions in recent years have killed several of the university's pecan, red oak, sycamore and ash trees, as well as a lot of plant material. The summer heat was especially hard on the university in 2011 when city regulations only allowed watering up to 1 inch per week, but the evaporation rate was 2.5-3 inches per week.

"It's hard to keep anything looking good in those conditions," Peter said. "When you don't have the greenery, we've got to do other things to make it just that much better, whether it's through keeping the trash picked up or keeping everything power washed more often."

Another outcome of the recent droughts is that ASU is planting fewer flowers, instead substituting native plants and greenery that can survive on the limited rainfall. As part of these adjustments, some formerly green areas along the University Mall and near the University Center have been replaced with xeriscaping.

"With high temperatures and high traffic, we were getting areas that were just beaten down," Peter said. "Without the rain, they're not going to come back. You just can't put enough irrigation water on it to really do any good. What we were getting were some dead areas, and trails were starting to form from golf carts and students. So we started putting down granite where people can walk across it, and people have been very receptive to it, actually."

In addition to their regular duties, grounds crew members are also responsible for certain aspects of campus safety. After winter storms, they spread ice melt and salt around buildings to allow for safe passage. They also trim trees so they do not block the university streetlights.

"There's a sense of pride in everything that they do because they can see the result," Peter said. "The trees that they trimmed, they can see how much better they look. After they trim the whole campus' shrubs with the hedge trimmers – they can look back and see what they did, and I think there's a sense of pride and accomplishment in the end result."

Even when ASU students are on break, the grounds crew is working to make sure the campus looks inviting to newcomers, and continues to be a source of pride for the current students and employees.

"If it's the dead of winter, then we're trimming trees," Peter said. "If it's springtime, the leaves from the live oaks are falling and we're blowing and picking up leaves, we're mowing and edging. In the fall, the pecans and the leaves start falling and we've got cleanup. And we're constantly power washing areas and keeping things hand watered, emptying trash cans, and picking up trash from the campus and the parking lots. It really is nonstop."

And that year-round attention is paying dividends. With a well-maintained campus as a major tool in its recruiting arsenal, ASU

has set record enrollment numbers each of the last five semesters, and is looking to continue that trend as it strives to reach 10,000 students by 2020.

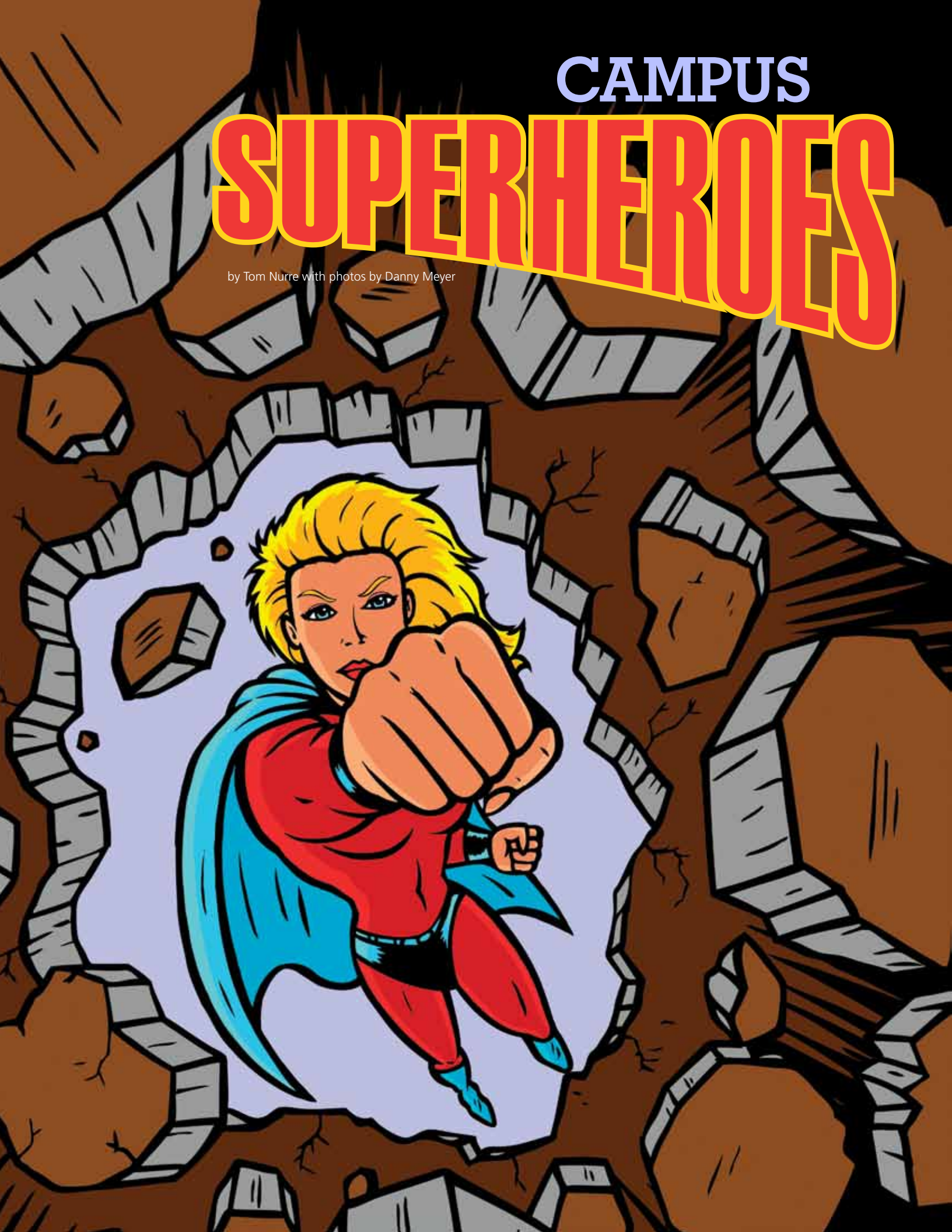
The visual appeal of the campus helps recruiters in the Office of Admission focus on other aspects of university life as they are meeting with prospective students, said Michael Loehring, director of recruitment services and admissions.

"The campus sells itself," Loehring said. "That's one benefit of working on a beautiful campus." ■



CAMPUS SUPERHEROES

by Tom Nurre with photos by Danny Meyer



Melody Kelley

Though they will probably never be featured in comic books or movies, ASU's academic department secretaries could easily be pictured wearing capes and a big red 'S' on their chests.

While they are officially titled "office coordinators," the 'S' would still look much better than 'OC' and give a clearer indication of the super staff who hold those positions in Angelo State's 19 academic departments.

"Without our departmental secretaries, to be honest, I don't know how we would function," said Dr. Leslie Mayrand, dean of the College of Health and Human Services. "They are the backbone of what goes on in their departments. If they weren't there, it would be painfully obvious how much we need them. They really are key to the smooth functioning of their departments and the colleges as well."

To keep their departments running efficiently, secretaries must be jacks of all trades. Besides answering phones and doing basic clerical work, they also order supplies, oversee departmental budgets and perform a myriad of other tasks. Melody Kelley spent six years doing all that in the Teacher Education Department before recently moving to the Department of Mathematics and Computer Science.

"You have to know a little bit about everything," Kelley said. "You have to know purchasing, accounting, auditing, facilities, all the degree programs and who to contact for every question from faculty, students and parents. We have to know at least a little bit about everything across the campus. I think it is one of the toughest positions on campus, but also one of the most rewarding."



Jaxine Boling

However, it is the duties they perform outside of their written job descriptions that really promote secretaries to superhero status. As provost and vice president for academic affairs, Dr. Brian May oversees all ASU academic departments. In his words, the secretaries are "literally the glue that holds ASU together."

"In addition to their regular duties," May said, "what they end up being are class advisors and even grief counselors. They worry about our students, and also take a lot of calls from worried parents. A lot of times, they are our front line as far as meeting student needs and for taking care of parents who need to contact their kids. If you ask

any student who they are going to remember after they leave ASU, nine times out of 10 it will be the department secretary who has made as big an impact as any professor."

Jaxine Boling has been impacting students as secretary of the Art and Music Department since 2003. By her estimate, she spends 50 percent of her time dealing with students, particularly freshmen.

"It's truly nursing them through that first semester," Boling said. "They get down or depressed because they don't really understand everything that is going on. I try to get to know them and build a bond with them. I try before the end of each semester to be able to call all my freshmen by



Elva Aguilar shopping with a group of international students

name, know where they are from and know at least a little bit about them. I try to be a good listener and help where I can.”

“I really feel like it is a calling for me,” she added. “Having had my own three kids come through ASU, I know how daunting it is in the beginning. Sometimes I may mother the students too much, but I believe that building that bond is a main thing that keeps some kids coming to school.”

“Mothering” students, though, is a big part of the job.

“The secretaries have a parental aspect that our students crave,” May said. “We call our students adults, but in many ways they are still kids and need that parental figure that they can count on.”

Another group that requires particular care is ASU’s growing population of international students. Elva Aguilar has been secretary of the Center for International Studies since 2008 and knows firsthand their special needs.

“They have different cultures and customs,” Aguilar said, “so when they come here, it is all new to them. It is a big shock because often, San Angelo is a much smaller city than where they came from. They don’t have parents or anyone else with them, so

we try to make them as comfortable as we can, and end up giving them a lot more help than a regular student might get.”

“I might take them shopping or to pick up prescriptions, things like that,” she added. “We kind of take the place of the parents who are not here, the big sister or the adopted mom. A lot of the international students I have gotten close to call me ‘mom’ because I always give them my phone number and tell them to call me if they need something. I also take a lot of them to my house so they can learn from us and we can learn from them.”

Some ASU secretaries even employ special tactics to make it more comfortable for students to approach them. Betty Thorpe in the Aerospace Studies/ROTC Department keeps a candy dish on her desk to give cadets an easy excuse to go see her.

“I like to watch them grow and become what I always know they can be,” Thorpe said. “I see their potential that they often don’t see. I like working with them and helping them develop until they see the diamond that they are – and we have a lot of diamonds around here.”

“Periodically, I’ll find students who are new to budgeting and have run out of money before running out of month,” she added.

“In those cases, I raid my own pantry for them until they can get back on their feet. Often they don’t have family support, and some of them don’t have families at all. It’s just one of those things I can do for them, human to human.”

The students, however, are not the only ones who benefit from these types of relationships. Every secretary on campus has stories of how students have also enriched their lives. Aguilar’s favorite story involves international students helping decorate her home for the holidays last December.

“They also brought their guitars and serenaded me,” Aguilar said. “While they were working, I cooked spaghetti for them and we ate as a family. We had so much fun. They are so friendly and lovable, they basically become like my children. I do for them like I would do for my own children.”

And sometimes it is the little things that mean the most.

“I’ve had students bring me gifts,” Kelley said. “I’ve also received really great e-mails from students, and had them leave cards on my desk, bring me cookies and come by after they’ve graduated just to see me and give me hugs. Those are some of the main things that make this job so rewarding.”



“When my cadets get commissioned,” Thorpe added, “it’s a great day but a sad day because I’m letting my kids go. But I know they are going to go out and do great things, and they never fail me. It’s also nice because I could probably travel around the world and never have to pay for a place to stay because they are everywhere.”

Faculty also depend on the department secretaries as much as the students. When crises occur, secretaries are often called upon to resolve situations that will never be listed in a job description.

“This spring we had a leak in a pipe upstairs,” Boling said. “Where it leaked was into our grand piano on the recital stage. You can’t let water sit on any piano, especially a \$60,000 grand piano, so my job was mopping, vacuuming, moving furniture and hauling wet vacs, things like that.”

“Our department secretaries,” May added, “they pull faculty out of jams all the time. It’s the little things that they do every single day. They work to make things go smoothly, and they also work to make the professors and administrators better at what they do.”

In recognition for all their efforts on behalf of students, faculty and their fellow

staff members, Aguilar, Boling, Kelley and Thorpe have all been recently nominated for Staff Excellence Awards. While all are gratified by the acknowledgement, their motivation comes from elsewhere.

“I love my job,” Aguilar said. “My husband always says, ‘I can’t believe that every morning when you get up, you can’t wait to go to work.’ Some people dread going to work, but not me. I love my job, and apparently it shows.”

“I try to make the job for my professors as easy as possible,” Boling added. “They are very busy, so anything that I can do here to take something off of them so they can be in the classroom or helping students, I try to do it. I also try to be an encourager for the students, meet them where they are at and help them when I can. That is me in a nutshell.”

Kelley added, “The students really make me feel good when I can help them. The professors and instructors in my department are also very appreciative of my efforts on their behalf. They are here to teach, so I’m here to take care of everything else so they can concentrate on the students.”

Thorpe, who spent 20 years in the U.S. Army, also has an additional motivation.

“There are many ways of serving your country, and in a way this job allows me to do that again,” she said. “There are also ways of serving your state, and I had not done that before, but this job gives me a way to do that as well.”

Office coordinator, facilitator, catalyst, parent, counselor, advisor and friend – when all wrapped up together they become secretary with a big red ‘S.’

“If you go to any departmental end-of-the-year banquet, the loudest applause will be for the secretary,” May said. “And that person probably organized the banquet to begin with. I’m thankful that we have the number and quality of employees at that position because it is key to the success of Angelo State. We couldn’t do it without them.”

“We don’t ever want to forget them,” Mayrand added, “because they are so valued, and I don’t think we tell them that often enough. I feel very fortunate to work with the staff here at Angelo State.” ■



Hard at Play

When it comes to intramurals, Angelo State students are in the game. Big time!

Through the hard work of its staff and volunteers, ASU's intramural sports program has become one of the most popular student activities on campus and has garnered national recognition for the university.

More than 2,500 ASU students play on almost 1,100 teams in 16 intramural competitions every year. Overseen by University Recreation (UREC), the program earned ASU a No. 18 national ranking in *The Princeton Review's* 2012 college guide for the category "Everyone Plays Intramural Sports."

"We estimate that about 40 percent of the campus plays intramural sports," said Bradley Petty, UREC director. "There are some schools that have more students playing, but for our size school, we dominate the numbers in participation."

With a student population of just over 7,000, ASU's intramural participation compares favorably to much larger schools, such as Petty's alma mater, Sam Houston State University in Huntsville, which has 15,000 students and fields approximately 90 total intramural teams per major team sport.

"ASU participation is outstanding," Petty said, "and our numbers are more in the ballpark of a school with 20,000-25,000 students."

And participation level is not the only way ASU's intramural programs have received national acclaim. ASU basketball and flag football teams have competed successfully in national tournaments. Most recently, men's basketball team Dynasty won the National Intramural-Recreational Sports Association's National Campus Championship Series (NIRSA-NCCS) regional tournament in March at Oklahoma State University, while Explicit finished second in the women's division.

In flag football, ASU co-rec team IM Legends was runner-up at the 2011 NCCS Flag

Football National Championship in January, while ASU's Wolfpac reached the semifinals. IM Legends also won a national title in 2010 at the American Collegiate Intramural Sports (ACIS) National Championships, and was runner-up in 2011. ASU's New Era finished second at the 2010 ACIS tournament.

"We have a lot of players from six-man high school teams who are not playing varsity football in college, but are really good athletes," Petty said. "Six-man is very similar to the seven-man flag football teams, except there is no contact. That gives us an advantage having those athletes, and we have taken as many as eight teams to regional tournaments. The past couple of years, every division where we have entered teams in tournaments, often both teams in the championship game were from Angelo State."

When a program becomes as successful as ASU intramurals, a lot of blood, sweat and logistics go into keeping the gears greased and in good working order. Divided into men's, women's and co-recreational (co-ed) divisions, the program keeps UREC staff and student volunteers busy with a variety of functions from officiating and scorekeeping to planning seasons and playoff brackets.

Planning sessions take place every April as UREC staff build and revise schedule calendars to meet student demand. There is no respite for them even between seasons because one sport immediately follows the last.

"When we are planning the seasons," Petty said, "none of our major sports overlap because we don't want one sport competing against another. The whole process is well thought out."

"We write all the holidays down and lay everything out," said Jeromey Whitaker, intramural and club sports manager. "Then we start meeting with the team captains and hold clinics for officials. It all starts



Bradley Petty



Jeromey Whitaker

with the officials because, without them, we wouldn't be able to have the games."

Each major sport requires 25-50 trained student officials. They must be able to stay with the action, endure the physical strain and put up with player complaints while making instantaneous rulings, all for about \$8 a game.

"It takes a unique kind of person to do that," Whitaker said. "We give them as much real knowledge as possible so they can officiate games throughout the season. The easier the sport is to officiate, the more officials we have, but officiating is never easy. Sometimes they call one game, and they are done in."

Whitaker does the hiring at the beginning of each academic year and tries to retain those with experience.

"As people graduate and leave, new ones come in," he said. "The ones who have experience can help the young ones."

ASU graduate student Andy Decker began by playing intramurals as an undergraduate before also taking on the striped officials' shirt.

"I officiate flag football, basketball and softball," he said. "I also play, so on average in a week, I'm up here eight hours in a day between officiating and playing."

Some sports do not need officials, like sand volleyball, where players police their own games. UREC staffers attend those events simply to monitor brackets and keep the games moving.

"Typically, our officials are reserved for our major team sports," Petty said. "That's where the most participation is, as well as where there is a greater likelihood for disputes over calls."

Intramurals – continued on page 49



Photo courtesy of UREC



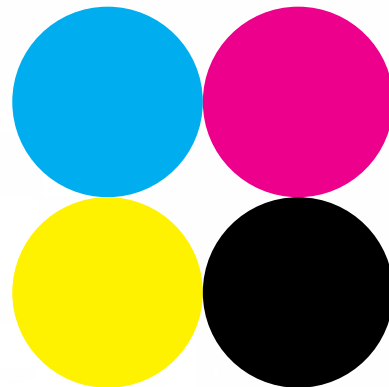
Photo by Danny Meyer

A lot goes on behind the scenes to make ASU's commencement a success. Visit the magazine website at www.angelo.edu/ASUMagazine to learn about the planning, implementation and people that make the event memorable for each class of graduates and their families.

Connecting

by Preston Lewis with photos by Danny Meyer

the Dots



Come finals at the end of each fall and spring semester, no graduating Angelo State seniors face any more stressful time than Henry Begil and Aaron Carrillo of the ASU Print Shop.

Granted, they may not have to pass a test, but Begil and Carrillo must print a commencement program in less than 24 hours or face the dissatisfaction of ASU graduates and their families, who deserve to see their loved ones' names in print to signify their educational accomplishment.

"It would be kind of rough," said Print Shop Supervisor Begil, "to miss that deadline and have to face disappointed parents and kids. We do 7,000 commencement programs, and it is probably the most important job we do all year."

Printer Carrillo runs the Heidelberg Printmaster four-color press, which prints the six folios that are cut and bound into the 24-page commencement program.



Henry Begil

"Typically," Carrillo said, "we get the finished materials at noon on the Thursday before Saturday's graduation. This spring I finished printing at 10 o'clock Thursday night. Then we came in Friday morning, trimmed the sheets and put them on our booklet maker to bind them. We finished the programs and then delivered them to the Junell Center by 6 p.m."

Their work and dedication is appreciated by Cindy Weeaks, director of registrar services, who coordinates the commencement logistics.

"We turn it in to them on Thursday, so Henry and Aaron only have until that Friday afternoon to get them printed," said Weeaks. "They work all night long to get it done and do an awesome job."

ASU Director of Graphics Michael Martin, who designs ASU's recruiting materials and other major publications, said, "I've had the pleasure of working with some of the best print houses in the state for 35 years, and I'd put Henry and Aaron up against any of them. These guys take a tremendous amount of pride in their work, and it shows in reflecting a professional image for Angelo State."

With the exception of *Angelo State University Magazine* and an occasional admissions publication, which because of size will not fit on the press or because the quantity is uneconomical to run on the press, the Print Shop produces virtually all of the university's publications.

If over the last decade you have received a letter from ASU, Begil and Carrillo printed the envelope and stationery. If you have ever received an Angelo State business card, they ran them through a Print Shop press, producing 115,750 business cards alone in 2011, the last fiscal year for which full numbers are available. If you have ever attended an event on campus, they likely produced the flyer, poster or invitation, whether the event was sponsored by the University Center Program Council, the Multicultural Center or the President's Circle. They even made 1,002,533 photocopies on their Xerox machine in 2011.

To say they are busy is an understatement, much like the sign on their front counter with three laughing caricatures and

the question, "You want it when?," designed to let customers know they need some lead time to juggle all their jobs.

During the summer when the campus is at its slowest, the Print Shop is at its busiest time of the year, printing a new round of recruiting materials for the Office of Admissions, producing a variety of academic pieces for the new academic year and closing out the fiscal year with billing in mid-August.

"Before we got the four-color press, we probably had two months of really slow time as many of the color jobs were sent off campus," Begil said. "Now, we may get a few slow weeks at the most, but with all the other stuff we offer now, such as big posters, the small color printing and reg-

ular copying, there's really no complete downtime anymore."

Begil began his printing career in an era of Linotypes and letterpresses and has seen the technology shift to digital files and publishing. He started work at Angelo State under Ray Bolf in 1992, when all the Print Shop offered was black-and-white printing.

"When I heard about the job," Begil recalled, "I really wanted it, so I came here every day until I think he got tired of me and just hired me."

Carrillo joined Begil in the Print Shop in the summer of 2000 after working 20 years for private printers. He might have started sooner except for a mix-up.

Print Shop – continued on page 51



Aaron Carrillo



Wood Stone

Recipe for Success

by Roy Ivey with photos by Danny Meyer

Wood fired pizza oven

When hunger pangs strike, the ASU campus community turns to Chartwells.

As the university's contracted food service provider, Chartwells employs almost 100 professionals who are involved in preparing more than 3,500 daily meals during the spring and fall semesters, requiring 3,000 tons of food and 34,200 gallons of beverages served in six different campus facilities. Their efforts are coordinated by Richard Gonzalez, director of dining services.

"Looking back and putting these figures together," Gonzalez said, "it is surprising how many people we serve."

ASU's various food service areas are overseen by seven Chartwells managers, including two in the Houston Harte University Center (UC), three in the Food Service Center and a catering director. They supervise 54 full-time employees, including three chefs, and 33 part-timers, some of them students.

"We try to get as many students as we can to work for us," Gonzalez said. "We like to hire them part time, and we work around their schedules because, ultimately, school comes first."

Many of the food service associates are longtime Chartwells employees, includ-

ing John Gengler, Becky Bravo and Wilma Bradley, who were all recently honored for more than 30 years of service. Mary Sanchez, who works in ASU's Crossroads Café, was named a Wonderful Woman of ASU earlier this year and has been with Chartwells for a quarter of a century.

"We have a lot of loyal staff members," Gonzalez said, "and a lot of them work in the fall and spring semesters, then take off during the breaks, summer and around the winter holidays."

On the east side of campus, the Food Service Center is the largest and busiest ASU



Richard Gonzalez,
Chartwells director
of dining services



Billy Hillis, executive chef



Teresa Gartrell, grill line server



right: Edna Johnson, food prep
below: Daniel Garrett, student



eatery and is open for regular mealtimes seven days a week during the long semesters. Operating hours vary the rest of the year, depending on university schedules.

“The Food Service Center is meant to feed a lot of people,” Gonzalez said. “About 500 can go through the door within 15-20 minutes. Not many restaurants in San Angelo can hit the traffic numbers that we get.”

Built in the late 1960s as a traditional cafeteria, the Food Service Center was remodeled in 2005 into a large food court serving made-to-order entrees and student favorites, including pizza, Mexican food and burgers. Healthy-choice meals, a salad bar, sandwiches, soups and home-style cooking are also available in the all-you-can-eat facility.

Connie Frazier, housing and residential programs director, said the modern collegiate concept of offering multiple options and greater selection to students sparked the push to remodel the Food Service Center.

“Like other industries, dining services experience trends,” she said. “We certainly try to keep pace with the new ideas and services. I think part of the challenge is offering enough of what is familiar to students so that there are those ‘go to’ options that most people like or want to see, but balancing that with some daily change-ups and new options – things that maybe they haven’t tried before.”

Both Housing and Residential Programs and Chartwells stay on top of what students want by including a section on food service in their annual student satisfaction surveys.

“That information is used to help make changes and improve service,” Frazier said.

Even with the choices available, the food service personnel at ASU strive to keep the choices fresh and avoid monotony.

“It’s a little like having a favorite restaurant, but if you eat there all the time, and you always choose the same entree, you are going to get tired of it,” Frazier said. “For that reason, we encourage students to make the most of their meal plan by taking full advantage of all the campus dining options – eating in different places and trying new menu items so they don’t get stuck in the habit of eating the same things every day.”

And there are plenty of location and menu options on campus.

Adjacent to the Food Service Center is Roscoe’s Den, which features specialty

burgers and sandwiches, hot wings, to-go salads, drinks and convenience store items. It is open 11:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m. Monday-Friday throughout the year, and keeps later hours during the spring and fall semesters when it is also open 7:30 p.m.-2 a.m. Monday-Thursday and 7-10 p.m. on Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays.

Across campus, Roscoe’s Bistro and the Crossroads Café are located in the University Center to provide food service for the west side of campus, particularly for students living in Centennial Village and Carr Hall.

While it is somewhat smaller than the Food Service Center, Roscoe’s Bistro also serves full daily meals during the spring and fall semesters. For diners who want “faster” food, the Crossroads Café is open year round with fresh sandwiches, pizza, Asian dishes and grilled food, such as burgers and sandwiches. Pre-packaged sandwiches and other items are also available.

Across the University Center lobby from Crossroads Café is R&B Espresso, which offers Starbucks-brand coffees and Freshens frozen yogurt along with iced drinks, salads, pastries and sandwiches to go.

The newest food service location on campus is the Common Grounds coffee bar in the Porter Henderson Library. Offering much the same food and drink selections as R&B Espresso, Common Grounds substitutes frozen yogurt with Frappuccino iced drinks as part of its “Proudly Serving Starbucks” line.

All of the campus eateries are overseen by the Food Service Committee, which includes Chartwells managers, students and a representative of Housing and Residential Programs. It meets every other Wednesday to review the food services and make any needed adjustments.

“We look at records for the first three weeks of the semester and estimate what we will need because we have no clue what anyone is going to be eating,” Gonzalez said. “We could have a bunch of extra food at the end of an evening, or we could run out by 6 p.m. and have to make adjustments to serve through 7:30 p.m. We rely on past history, and analyze what was eaten and what wasn’t.”

In addition to daily campus food service, Chartwells is also the university’s official



Robert Martinez,
catering supervisor

caterer for meetings, banquets and special events both on and off campus.

“We go to the LeGrand Alumni and Visitor Center, the Junell Center, the San Angelo Museum of Fine Arts and the Cactus Hotel,” Gonzalez said. “We concentrate on campus, but we can go anywhere in town and regularly cater for groups from 20 to 1,000 people. We have even catered a plated service for three people, and at Rambunctious Weekend, we will probably feed 2,000.”

Topping the Chartwells priority list, though, is always trying to please and accommodate its primary customer base – ASU students. Personnel are always on the lookout for students with special needs, including food allergies, intolerance to gluten or the cultural preferences of the university’s growing international student population.

“We have started baking gluten-free bread based on rice and tapioca flour,” Gonzalez said. “We have students who cannot eat any type of gluten products, so they love our bread. We will never replace mom’s cooking, but we have asked students to

bring us their favorite recipes or ideas from home, and we try to incorporate them into our menu cycles. One of the things I tell the students is to just ask. If we can do it, we are going to do it.”

Frazier agreed that dining services must be responsive to special requests and diets that cater to vegetarians, diabetics and others with dietary needs out of the mainstream or because of scheduling issues.

“It can be challenging to accommodate the wide range of eating preferences and schedules on a college campus while trying to keep an eye on cost and operational efficiencies, so that we can maintain the best overall value and meet the needs of the majority of our constituents,” she said.

The Chartwells unit at ASU stands ready to accommodate those needs year round.

“It takes a lot of dedicated people to run this operation,” Gonzalez said, “and if there are students on campus, we are here. I don’t think people know that we serve food 365 days a year, and we have been doing it for about four years.” ■

Underground ASU

by Jayna Phinney with photos by Danny Meyer



HVAC
technician
Raymond
Bradshaw
in the tunnel

Some of the most technologically advanced equipment operating on the Angelo State campus is never seen by the students, the faculty or the public.

Located underneath the Food Service Center on the east side of campus, the university's Central Plant is the home base for ASU's heating and cooling system. It provides hot water for the food service areas and science labs, and regulates the temperature in university buildings.

Overseen by ASU Facilities Management's Mechanical Services division, the Central Plant operates around the clock, and consequently has staff on call 24 hours a day. While any mechanical problems must be addressed on site, recent technology upgrades allow temperature regulating to be done remotely.



Energy control
technicians Brian Porter, left,
and Carl Halfmann at the controls

I have guys who have laptop computers who can be anywhere in the world and can see what's going on down there," said Jay Halbert, facilities management director. "There's times when I can call one of my controls technicians, and he may be sitting at a high school football game up in Dallas, and he'll get on his computer and he'll change the temperature of a room."

Staffers can also receive alerts of possible equipment failures on their smartphones, which significantly reduces response times for on-site repairs. With the advanced technology, though, also comes the need for staffers, like energy control technicians Carl Halfmann and Brian Porter, to learn the complicated nuances of the Central Plant's computer system.

Mechanical Services work is typically 80 percent preventive and 20 percent responsive, said Paul Pillsbury, associate director of mechanical services, and the university's efforts to keep up with new technology in the field help keep their jobs manageable.

"We can head off a lot of problems before people even know something is not working properly," Pillsbury said.

From the Central Plant, heated and chilled water circulates in pipes to the campus buildings. Each building has a mechanical air handler room, where the air is either heated or cooled by the water and then pushed through the building. Once the water has passed across the temperature coils in the air handler rooms, it circles back to the Central Plant to be either heated or cooled again and routed back through the system. Texas Tech University System guidelines mandate that heating in all buildings range from 68-71 degrees, and cooling range from 72-75 degrees.

You'd be amazed that one or two degrees difference around here saves tens of thousands of dollars," Halbert said. "So it's a big chunk of money when we alter those temperatures just a little bit. Yes, in the summertime, people are going to be a little bit warm in most offices. In the wintertime, they're going to be a little bit cool in most of fices. We can't regulate it perfectly in every building, but we do our best."

During regular working hours, conditions in the Central Plant differ from most

other offices on campus. Overhead, the plant is a maze of pipes with some as large as 14-16 inches in diameter. It houses six chillers, two large scale boilers and several smaller boiler units, which create a constant buzz of machinery. And, in the summer months, the plant is stifling from the heat of all those machines battling the West Texas temperatures.

In the summer, Halbert said, "we make sure none of the guys work alone and that they all have plenty of fluids because it's so hot down here."

Some of the crew's other everyday tasks include replacing filters and greasing bearings in the air handler rooms, plumbing repairs, working with high voltage equipment and testing for water quality to ensure that none of the pipes corrode. The Central Plant also has a machine shop where crew members do their own ductwork. Each of the 10 plus crew members must know all the maintenance and control systems so they can handle any problems when they are on call.

Since temperature regulating can be done remotely, the main concern for on-call workers is a pipe leak or break. A tunnel with exposed piping extends from the Central Plant to the Porter Henderson Library. From there, the rest of the heating and cooling pipes are buried underground. If a leak or a break happens in the tunnel, the crew can typically get in and easily repair it. But if a leak occurs in a buried portion of a line, it is a different story.

Underground – continued on page 51

below: Electrician
Ardie Harmon checks the equipment.
bottom: Plumbers Joe Peña, left,
and Doug Craddick make repairs.



Home at last

His July appointment as Angelo State's new athletic director represents a homecoming for Sean Johnson, who served as ASU's sports information director from 1993-95 in a career that has placed him in marketing or administrative roles at nine other colleges over the last 28 years.

"The thing I remember most about my first experience at Angelo State," Johnson said, "was how the whole athletic staff worked together. When we hosted a football game, a track meet, a basketball game, everyone pitched in. The other thing I enjoyed, and this is one of the great things about Division II athletics, is that we all pulled for each other. We all enjoyed our success together."

Johnson, who succeeds Kathleen Brashfield and comes to ASU from the University of North Dakota (UND) where he was senior associate athletic director for external affairs, will be working to maintain that cohesiveness and build upon the university's successes that include two national championships in the last eight years.

"We will expect excellence in everything we do," Johnson said. "We will set the same goals and have the same expectations for all of our sports. The good news is that the bar has already been set high by former coaches and administrators Kathleen Brashfield, Jerry Vandergriff, David Noble, Ed Messbarger and Phil George, and it has continued with our current coaching staff. Plain and simple, we want to compete for national championships in every sport we sponsor."

His first challenge will be to increase support and resources across the board for ASU athletic programs, a task he is well suited for with his background in communications and marketing. In his 3½ years at UND, he doubled the number of radio stations broadcasting UND sports, increased the market size for

the school's sports network and re-branded the UND sports logo.

"College athletics is a unique business, and we need to look at it as a business," Johnson said. "To grow our business, we need to grow our customer base. ASU has a great program, it's located in a great town, and I know there is opportunity to grow a fan base that can support the program."

The opportunity to increase support today is greater than when Johnson started his career in 1984 as sports information director for Lincoln University because of the pervasiveness of digital and social media.

"Social media and the Internet have led to a 24-hour information cycle that demands immediate response and reaction, but this trend started 30 years ago when *USA Today* changed the face of journalism by delivering multiple news items in a shortened version," Johnson said.

"The great thing about social media, the Internet and technology, in general, is it allows Division II schools like Angelo State the same opportunities to communicate and market that are available to much larger schools," he continued. "You don't have to buy your way into communication as much as you had to in the past. Now you can control your message and get the important facts to all of your constituents without a middle man."

And while omnipresent digital and social media are competitors for the public's discretionary dollars and time, college athletics is still a superior option, particularly at the D-II level, because of affordability and the game experience.

"The fact that technology has also created more demand for the public's enter-

tainment dollar doesn't change the fact that there is nothing better than watching an event in person," Johnson said. "It's one thing to watch the game on television, iPhone or computer, but it will never replace the social experience of enjoying it in person."

As Johnson looks to the future of ASU athletics, his goals are direct and ambitious.

"We want to recruit the best student-athletes and make sure they graduate and become leaders in their field," he said. "We want to compete for championships, serve our community, give our fans a great experience every time they come to an ASU home game and do our very best to serve the overall mission of Angelo State University. We want to be the best Division II program in the country."

Further, Johnson is humbled by the opportunity to lead ASU on that path.

"I've been attracted to the Angelo State job ever since I moved into administration," he said. "I told my wife and my close friends that if I ever got the opportunity to be an athletic director, my first choice would be Angelo State. This is my dream job."

"I will never forget that Angelo State gave me the opportunity to become an athletic director. I'm so appreciative to have received this opportunity to represent the fans, students, student-athletes, faculty, staff and alumni of Angelo State. ASU has a fabulous tradition, and we want to build on that tradition and take it to a higher level." ■



Sean Johnson

20'4.5" Ahead of her time

Theresa Sue earned a Lone Star Conference title before she was legally allowed to sign her own paperwork.

"I was kind of embarrassed at first because we had to send my mom everything for compliance," Sue said. "I couldn't sign anything, but they let me run."

A native New Yorker and daughter of two former Caribbean track athletes, Sue relocated to Texas with her father, Rolex, when she was 13. She graduated high school when she was 16 and enrolled as a student and walk-on track and field athlete at Angelo State before turning 17. She still wonders why people have always asked her why she is in such a hurry.

"I had nothing to do besides study and run track when we moved to Fort Worth, so I challenged myself to be great at both of them," said Sue, who also helped lead the Rambelles to their fourth straight LSC team title in 2012. "People have always said that I walk like I'm on a mission. If I wasn't doing track then I was taking extra classes in high school. It wasn't really a goal of mine to finish early. It kind of just happened."

The 400-meter hurdles LSC champion as a sophomore in 2011, Sue defended that title by running 1:01.34 as a junior and also claimed the LSC title in the long jump this season. Her leap of 20 feet, 4.5 inches at the conference meet in Commerce set a personal best, while her seventh-place finish at the 2012 NCAA Division II national meet in Pueblo, Colo., earned the first All-America honor in her accelerated career.

With three years of collegiate experience, Sue is now signing her own paperwork as a 19-year-old senior who is challenging herself to win five All-America certificates during the 2013 indoor and outdoor seasons.

"I'm fast enough, but I'm not strong enough right now," she admitted. "I used to

avoid the weight room at all costs. That has to change. I never have had to lift in my life. It's always been natural to me. I think a lot of that comes with being a little immature. I finally understand that I need to put in more work to reach my goals."

That mindset comes as a breath of fresh air to her coaches, who see her unlimited potential.

"It's been very exciting to see her progress throughout the years, but it hasn't been easy at all," ASU head track and field coach James Reid said. "I think she's ready to take that next step. Her age created some challenges for her and for us throughout the last three years, but I think next year is really going to be her time."

Former ASU track star and All-American Chrystal Ruiz, who was Sue's teammate before becoming a graduate assistant coach, has watched her development from the beginning. An emerging level of maturity remains the theme.

"Her maturity really developed this year," Ruiz said. "She has grown as a team member and an athlete a lot since she got here. Theresa comes out to work hard and has the potential to have a lot more success next year."

Sue acknowledges her fast-tracked pace through Saginaw High School came at a price. Although she went to the University Interscholastic League Class 5A State Track and Field Championships three years in a row and her 2009 4x400 relay team still holds the school's record, she never experienced a prom. Beyond that, Sue spent so much time studying that she neglected many of the social aspects of growing up.

"I was all about my books and track at that time," she said.

Now a history major at ASU, Sue is planning to move back to New York for graduate

school. Her original design was to become a lawyer, but she is now considering going to New York University to study communications and pursue a career in sports journalism. For now she is enjoying life as a student-athlete at ASU and is making an effort to not let the moments go by unappreciated.

"I really believe everything happens for a reason and anything is possible," Sue said. "I've done a lot so far, but I still have a lot more to do." ■



Photo by Danny Meyer

Theresa Sue

the Undefeated



George McCorkle and his wife, Ola Mae

The greatest loss for the 2012 Rambelles softball team was not a game, but a fan – George McCorkle. As a fan, you could say McCorkle was undefeated.

Love and passion were words used in McCorkle's obituary to articulate his feelings for the Angelo State softball team. Inspirational, positive, faithful, respected and a man of great character were a few ways the heartbroken Rambelles expressed their admiration for him and his wife, Ola Mae.

"He had so much love for us and we felt the same way about him," said ASU catcher Kacie Easley, who visited San Angelo Community Medical Center with her family just hours before McCorkle passed away. "His family kept thanking me at the hospital for coming and told me to thank my team for bringing so much joy into George's life. I was there to thank them," she said.

McCorkle, who was a friend, fan and supporter of the softball team, died at the age of 71 on April 6 after a battle with cancer, and on a day when his Rambelles swept an emotionally excruciating doubleheader against Texas Woman's University.

He and Ola Mae were constant supporters at Angelo State athletic events. A devoted man of faith who also served in the U.S. Air Force for 20 years, he loved to attend games and practices and give motivational speeches to the team. He often discussed strategy with head softball coach Travis Scott and then enjoyed informing other fans what was going on. Scott credits McCorkle for helping him become a better coach, and even more importantly, a better person.

"George was always smiling and upbeat," Scott said. "He taught us all a lesson about life and faith. Win or lose, he was always supportive of us. He never questioned the effort of the girls or the coaching decisions that were made. George and Ola are not just fans, they are part of our program."



Photo by Danny Meyer

Always around the team, there were many times when the McCorkles were assumed to be parents or grandparents of an Angelo State softball player. After her husband's passing, Ola was touched by the players and coaches wearing sweatbands with his initials on them and also seeing "GM" painted on the field. Those are but a select few of the cherished moments Ola experiences when she closes her eyes to reminisce about the times she enjoyed the company of him and his Rambelles.

"We don't have any grandchildren, so we always consider all the Angelo State athletes our grandchildren," she said. "You really get to know the athletes and their parents when you consistently come out to support the teams. You become part of their family. We always loved that part of it."

Thirty-one current and former players attended his funeral in their ASU softball uniforms to say goodbye. It was a tribute McCorkle would have been delighted to see and one Ola needed. For as hard as it was for a team full of players who always had smiles on their faces to now have eyes filled with tears, it was a way to pay homage to the couple that had cheered them on for years. They were there to honor a man who had wished them good luck before they went on road trips and had met them in the parking lot – often after midnight – to welcome them back home, regardless of the significance of the game or the result.

"They really showed me how much love they had for him and me when they showed up wearing their uniforms," Ola said. "I had no idea that many former players were going to be coming back. When I saw them, I really got a lift that I needed."

Although McCorkle's physical presence was no longer there, Ola and the love for him remained throughout the 2012 season that fell just one win short of the NCAA

Division II Softball Championship Tournament. ASU finished the season with a record, winning the Lone Star Conference championship for the sixth time in program history. Elsamartina Apo, who led the team with a .424 batting average, was named LSC Female Athlete of the Year, while Ola and DeeshanaLynn Tafiti, Apo and Kacie Easley earned All-America honors.

"For us to go out and play the way we did this season says a lot about the makeup of our players," Scott said. "Everybody accepted their role and really bought into the team concept this year. People say that a lot, but we never had one issue with anything. We were talented up and down the lineup and had a lot of talent that hardly ever saw the field."

A season where the Rambelles were nationally ranked throughout and outscored their opponents by a combined score of 565-394 avoided many on-field struggles, except for a three-game losing streak that was reversed in late March. The Rambelles finished the regular season by winning 16 of their final 18 games. While mired in that mini-slump, the team found strength from McCorkle in his life's most fragile moment.

"He pulled my team out of a rut that we fell into," Apo said. "We realized that if this man is fighting for his life, then we as a team need to fight and dig deep. The respect he had for us rejuvenated our team."

During ASU's first home game after McCorkle's funeral, Ola returned alone to a softball field full of people who love her. Together, they cheered the Rambelles to a 7-3 victory over Abilene Christian. For the first time, she needed them more than they needed her.

"He was always right there beside me and it was really tough without him there," said Ola, who married McCorkle in 1988 after meeting him at Wesley Trinity United Methodist Church. "It's still very difficult. I don't



the support I had from the girls, coaches and other fans, who really helped me."

"It wasn't easy seeing her there without George," Easley said, "but we were very excited she was there. It didn't feel right out there when they weren't there. I know it wasn't easy for her, but we are very grateful for the support she gives us. There's a huge void that can't be replaced now that George is gone, but we are still really blessed because we have Ola."

The successful 2012 ASU softball season concluded in the third game of a best-of-three super regional series against Central Oklahoma. McCorkle was not physically present to watch the final month of the season, but his incredible spirit never left. Neither did his love, Ola Mae, who was there to support the players and watch the games for him.

"I'll support Angelo State as long as I'm on top of the ground and the ground is not on top of me," Ola said. "I will always be there for all of them." ■



Following a Champion



From Kingsville to Canyon, from Oklahoma to Missouri and even up the sidewalks to the Foster Field press box, Tommy and Debbie Robinson navigated their Mini Cooper everywhere last season to support the Lone Star Conference champion Angelo State baseball team.

The couple, who have been devoted fans since the baseball program started in 2005, attended almost every game of the 2012 season, hosted tailgate parties during the regular season and served as hospitality directors at the LSC Baseball Championship – a tournament the Rams won by beating Tarleton State, 6-0, in the title game. They drove to Warrensburg, Mo., to watch ASU at the NCAA Division II South Central Regional where the 40-17 season came to an end, falling just one step short of advancing to the NCAA Division II Baseball Championship in Cary, N.C.

“We really enjoyed this season because of all the camaraderie that the team had,” Debbie said. “They had so much fun out there and you could really tell that they loved what they were doing. That makes it fun for us as fans to watch. I’ve always thought that if you support the team, you should be there all the time no matter where they play.”

Tommy and Debbie are fans of many Angelo State athletic teams, but feel a special connection to baseball because they first met during high school at a San Angelo Central baseball game. This past season, they particularly enjoyed cooking meals and providing refreshments for tour-



Debbie and Tommy Robinson

Photo by Danny Meyer

nament administrators, umpires, coaches and media during the LSC Championship, though it was a challenge because of weather delays that pushed games past midnight and eventually to an unscheduled fifth day. Each weather interruption, which Tommy described as a “monumental job and a crazy time,” caused a rush to their tent, which turned into the tournament’s gathering place during delays that lasted up to seven hours. They also prepared and delivered food and drinks to the press box for administrators and the media.

“It’s awesome to have people that are so helpful and supportive of our program,” said ASU head coach Kevin Brooks, who was named LSC Coach of the Year after leading the Rams to a 20-8 conference record. “Debbie and Tommy were there, home and away, and really invested a lot of time into us. They are two of the people that really make our baseball program special. As coaches and players, we notice it and can’t thank them enough for everything they do.”

The Robinsons were not alone in enjoying watching the team put together one of the best seasons in program history. The Rams were ranked as high as fourth in the national polls, won the LSC regular season and tournament championships and outscored their opponents by a combined score of 409-241.

All-American Lee Neumann thrilled fans throughout the season with sensational plays in centerfield and at the plate, hitting .389 and leading the conference with 81 hits, nine triples and 60 runs scored. Ryan Greer led ASU by driving in 58 runs and stealing 29 bases, while Quaid McKinnon, Toby Semler, Brett Parson and Andrew Lacombe all hit over .300 and were named to the All-LSC first team.

Michael Lange went 9-1 on the mound, and Michael Weatherly recorded nine saves, as both pitchers also earned first-team All-LSC recognition. Doug Snover was named an Academic All-American, while Zach Cohen earned the Fred Jacoby Academic

Player of the Year Award, given to the top student-athlete in the conference.

“It was a really good group that brought Angelo State baseball back to where it is supposed to be,” Brooks said. “We have a great core group returning next season that we’re really excited about.”

Added Tommy Robinson, “ASU has a tremendous baseball program with great guys. We’re prepared to drive to North Carolina next year to watch the Rams in the 2013 D-II College World Series.” ■

Sportsbriefs



Coach Reid congratulates Jaylen Rodgers

Four in a Row

By winning a fourth-straight Lone Star Conference title, the Angelo State Rambelles track and field team accomplished a feat only seen three other times in ASU history.

The latest title also distinguishes Angelo State as only the second women's team in Lone Star Conference history to win four consecutive crowns in track and field.

It is the sixth league crown in the last nine years for the Rambelles. The team race was one of the closest in conference history with ASU edging Abilene Christian 195.5 to 195 in the LSC Championships. The Rams finished in third place in the men's competition with 152 points. ASU took home a total of 10 combined individual and relay LSC titles during the three-day event,

and James Reid was named LSC Women's Track and Field Coach of the Year for the ninth time in his career.

At the NCAA Division II Outdoor Track and Field Championships in Pueblo, Colo., the Rams and Rambelles combined for three All-America honors. Jacob McDonald earned his third-straight All-America designation in the javelin, and Theresa Sue was named All-American in the long jump. The highlight of the meet was freshman Jaylen Rodgers, who finished as the national runner-up in the 800 meters. Rodgers was named the LSC Female Track Athlete of the Year for her efforts.

The Rambelles finished the national meet tied for 23rd and the Rams tied for 41st. ■



Courtney Rutledge

Young Guns

The Angelo State Rambelles golf team took another step this past season in becoming a young contender on the Lone Star Conference landscape.

Led by sophomore Courtney Rutledge, the Rambelles – who often played last season with three newcomers on their five-person tournament roster – tied for fourth at the LSC Championship Tournament (318-311 – 629). Rutledge earned a seventh-place standing for the two-day tournament, becoming the first ASU golfer to finish in the top 10 at the championship since 2010. It was also the Monahans native's second top 10 finish of the spring.

She was joined by teammates Abby Bobo (15th) and Krista Czarnecki (T-17th) in the top 25 in the conference. The Rambelles also achieved success in the classroom with Czarnecki earning Academic All-LSC honors for the second consecutive season to go along with all eight members of this spring's team being named to the LSC Commissioner's Honor Roll.

Each returning member from the 2012 squad also posted a perfect 4.0 grade point average during the spring semester. With no graduating seniors and another influx of talent set to join the team in the fall, the young 'Belles look to continue their rise to the top of the conference. ■

Volleyball

Coach: Chuck Waddington
(5th year, 89-47 at ASU)

Last Year: 31-6 (17-3, 2nd in LSC)

Outlook: After advancing to the NCAA D-II national tournament for the first time in 19 years last season, the 'Belles have even higher expectations for 2012. ASU returns nine players from the 2011 squad that went 31-6, and has added one transfer and six freshmen with the potential to make immediate impacts. After advancing to the LSC Tournament championship game the last two seasons, the 'Belles have made it their goal to win the 2012 championship as they enter the season nationally ranked.

Top Returners: Seniors Chelsea Gibson and Alex Woolsey return after being named to the All-LSC first team in 2011. With 346 kills last season, Gibson enters 2012 needing only 75 kills for 1,000 in her career. Woolsey has recorded 3,691 career assists, and another strong season could see her pass ASU's current all-time assist leader, Amber Nelson (4,786). Juniors Kaelen Valdez and Maddie Huth combined for 562 kills last season, while sophomore Shelby Wilt led the 'Belles with 585 digs. Seniors Katie Coleman and Emily Booth will add depth and leadership, while junior outside hitter Leah McWilliams adds versatility following a redshirt season.

Top Newcomers: Junior Shelbi Goode, a 6-2 middle blocker and former high school All-American from Georgetown, joins the 'Belles after two years at the University of Alabama. Four freshmen, outside hitter Arielle Bond (El Paso), defensive specialist Haley Bianco (Austin), middle blocker Kailyn Troxell (Pampa) and defensive specialist Katie MacLeay (San Antonio), are expected to solidify the ASU lineup.

Soccer

Coach: Travis McCorkle
(5th year, 39-32-8 at ASU)

Last Year: 6-9-4 (5-6-3, 5th in LSC)

Outlook: The Rambelles have made two straight trips to the postseason and will field a team primed to make it three in a row. Coming off a 2011 season that included a program-record four ties and displayed competitiveness in most of their losses, Coach McCorkle and his players worked hard in the offseason to get winning results.

Top Returners: Junior Maggie Schaffer is the leading returning scorer with six goals in 2011. She is joined by seniors Hanna Horeis with four goals and Lauren Carnes with two goals from last year. Horeis and Carnes are this year's team captains along with Karli Maxey. Junior defender Jordan Benfield hopes to build on her 2011 All-LSC second team performance, while Kat Monroe and goalkeeper Danielle Edwards will fill important roles this season.

Top Newcomers: Eight freshmen are expected to add both depth and talent to the 2012 Rambelles. San Angelo Central graduate Lauren Bateman is a goal-scoring forward, while midfielders Teegan Courtney, Sierra Anderson, Selena Alvarez and Laura Alcorn will vie for immediate playing time. Natalie Nelson is an athletic goalkeeper, who had a strong high school career at Schertz Clemens, while Ashley Exford and Shay Williams will bolster the ASU defense.

Football

Coach: Will Wagner (2nd year)

Last Year: 5-6 (2-6, 6th in LSC)

Outlook: A solid recruiting class and 38 returning lettermen should provide second-year head coach Will Wagner with a talented team to take the field this fall. The Rams will play six home games, including three of the first four games on their schedule.

Top Returners: The Rams return four starters on both sides of the ball, including All-LSC selections Alvin Johnson, Paul Mason, Kyle Patterson and Austin Sumrall. Junior quarterback Blake Hamblin returns from a late-season shoulder injury and will have talented receivers in C.J. Akins and Dakarai Pecikonis. The ASU defense will be anchored by senior defensive end Austin Benson.

Cowboys Stadium: The Rams will face Valdosta State on Saturday, Sept. 15, as part of the Lone Star Football Festival presented by Firestone. It will be ASU's first matchup with the Blazers, who won the 2004 and 2007 NCAA Division II national championships. ■



ASU Angelettes

Alumni Homecoming Dinner

The Angelo State University Alumni Association will host its annual Homecoming Dinner on Friday, Oct. 19, to honor distinguished graduates and supporters of ASU.

The 2012 honorees are Merl Brandon, distinguished alumnus; Stephanie Stoebe, distinguished Carr scholar; Lt. Col. Stephen Magnan, distinguished ROTC alumnus; Hazel Dooley, honorary alumna; Dr. John Duke, outstanding retired faculty member; Ewell E. "Pat" Murphy Jr., golden ex; Wendy Storms, outstanding staff; and Dr. Sangeeta Singg, distinguished faculty achievement.

Activities will begin with a reception at 6 p.m. in the LeGrand Center, followed by dinner at 6:30 p.m. Tickets are \$60 per person and are available by contacting the Alumni Association at 325-942-2122 or by visiting the website at www.angelostatealumni.com.

Honorees will be featured in the Homecoming Parade Saturday morning and then guests at the association's Homecoming Ram Jam from 1:30-3:30 p.m. before the 4 p.m. Homecoming game against Texas A&M-Commerce in San Angelo Stadium.



Alumni Award Criteria

Distinguished Alumnus

Awarded to an alumnus who has received significant recognition through career and/or community service and leadership.

Honorary Alumnus

Awarded to an individual who did not attend ASU, but has brought recognition to the university or who has supported ASU or the ASU Alumni Association in a significant manner.

Distinguished Carr Scholar Alumnus

Awarded to an alumnus who attended ASU on a Carr Scholarship and has received significant recognition through career and/or community service and leadership.

Distinguished ROTC Alumnus

Awarded to an alumnus who attended ASU as part of the Air Force ROTC Detachment 847 and has received significant recognition through career and/or community service and leadership.

Golden Ex of the Year

Awarded to an individual who has been an alumnus for 50 years or longer and who has brought recognition to ASU and/or the ASU Alumni Association.

Outstanding Retired Faculty

Awarded to a former ASU faculty who had a distinguished career at ASU.

Distinguished Faculty Achievement

Awarded to a current ASU faculty member who has had a profound effect on the lives and careers of ASU students (not required to be an alumnus).

Distinguished Staff Achievement

Awarded to a current ASU employee who as a staff member has demonstrated support and dedication for the development of ASU (not required to be an alumnus).

Distinguished Alumnus Outstanding Administrator



Merl Brandon

Restricting his education and professional career to West Texas has certainly not limited **Merl Brandon's** success.

First, he excelled at Angelo State University, where as an undergraduate he earned a Carr Academic Scholarship, made the Dean's List from 1989-92 and graduated *cum laude* with a bachelor's degree in mathematics. After starting a teaching career in nearby Miles, he continued his education at ASU, eventually earning a Master of Education and superintendent certification.

"As a first-generation college student," Brandon said, "Angelo State's desire to help area high school graduates was instrumental in my success. When I went to register for my first class, I honestly expected several roadblocks. What I discovered was just the opposite. I felt supported and encouraged by faculty and staff alike."

With his ASU education as a springboard, Brandon has also posted impressive professional achievements. While teaching in Miles in 1995, he was named to *Who's Who Among America's High School Teachers*. After spending a year as the junior high principal in Irion County, he returned to Miles in 1999 as the high school principal. For his accomplishments there, he was named the Texas Association of Secondary School Principals' (TASSP) Region XV Principal of the Year in 2003, 2008 and 2012, was a state finalist for TASSP Principal of the Year in 2008 and was named TASSP Secondary Principal of the Year in 2012.

"I decided to realize I could do more from within the

"Principals are able to influence changes in technology, curriculum, scheduling, staffing and budgeting. At the time, Miles was one of the few high schools in the region to offer Internet access, development of Web pages, self-paced curriculum and dual-credit classes, so it was an exciting time to be the principal in that environment."

For his outstanding professional accomplishments, Brandon has also been named the ASU Alumni Association's 2012 Distinguished Alumnus.

Not one to rest on his laurels, Brandon actually learned of his Principal of the Year Award after he had left Miles to become assistant principal at the Central Freshman Campus in San Angelo. This year, he is the new principal at San Angelo's Lincoln Middle School.

"As I listened to the problems that principals were experiencing in large districts," Brandon said, "I began to ask myself if I could help effect the same kind of success we had experienced in Miles in a larger school setting. The success in Miles was a concerted effort of students, staff, parents and community members. I am confident that this same spirit of community and desire to succeed exists in San Angelo as well."

"The most rewarding aspect of my job," he added, "is the opportunity to give hope of a better education and hope of a better life. Nothing means more than seeing a student several years down the road and hav-

ing them say that you made a difference in their life. That is what it is all about."

So, Brandon's path in life has come full circle back to San Angelo where it all started at ASU. Fittingly, attending ASU has also become a family tradition. His wife, Becky, holds an ASU nursing degree; his daughter, Ashley, graduated from ASU in 2007 and went on to graduate from medical school at Texas Tech; and his son, Garrett, is an ASU undergraduate.

"I was once told that success comes from the desire to be in contact with individuals who teach and inspire you," Brandon said. "This is the type of experience I have found in attending ASU; professional men and women who have a passion for education." ■





Hazel Dooley

Honorary Alumna Appreciating the Little Things

Hazel Dooley's introduction to San Angelo College, now Angelo State University, was not a positive one.

During her sophomore year at Tarleton Junior College in 1938, the school's basketball team had won an impressive 88 straight games before a major upset at the hands of SAC ruined the winning streak.

"That little two-by-four San Angelo College beat us," Dooley said. "That's what we'd call it – that little two-by-four, because they were just one little building on part of the high school. That was my introduction to San Angelo College, but little did I know I was going to spend most of my life in San Angelo."

After finishing her education at the University of Texas, Dooley came to San Angelo and became a Tom Green County extension agent. One of her old Tarleton friends, the late R.B. Dooley, also moved to San Angelo to be an agriculture professor at SAC. The couple reconnected in 1948 and married the following year.

"We lived happily ever after," Dooley said.

Their marriage also marked the start of Dooley's lengthy commitment to ASU, which spans almost as long as her 70 years in San Angelo and has led to her being recognized by the ASU Alumni Association as its 2012 Honorary Alumna.

In the early years of their marriage, teaching at the university was not just a job – it was a way of life. In addition to his classroom duties, R.B. was the bookstore manager for his first seven years at ASU. The couple also had season tickets to all the

ASU athletic events, but did not always get to sit together and enjoy the games.

"Back then, the faculty used to have to work at the ball games," Dooley said. "They had to sell tickets and all kinds of stuff."

And Dooley was kept busy as well, but she did not mind because of the tight-knit campus community that boasted only 25 faculty members.

"Every time somebody would get a new house," Dooley said, "we'd all go around and sing and make ice cream and goodies and have an open house, except when they got the president's house. We all just sang out in the street that time because they didn't need anything."

Dooley also joined a group called Faculty Women and Wives and even served a term as president. She also remembers bringing baked goods to the university when Dr. James Hindman was president.

"I used to take Christmas cookies to the people on the second floor in the Administration Building," Dooley said. "I used to say 'You've got to have a little pull to get in here' because the door said 'Pull' on it."

Even after her husband's retirement from ASU, Dooley stayed involved with the university. She volunteered at the LeGrand Alumni and Visitors Center for six years, and has endowed three academic scholarships, one in agriculture and two in nursing.

But even though Dooley came to love San Angelo's "little two-by-four" college, she never seemed to escape the Tarleton basketball loss in 1938. As a county extension agent, she worked in the same building as the late Ed B. Keyes, who was the SAC basketball coach for that game and loved to tease her about it any chance he got.

In the spring of 2010, ASU's Development Office staff took Dooley and Keyes' wife, Frances Keyes, to an ASU basketball game against Tarleton State.

"Sure enough, ASU beat Tarleton that night," Dooley said.

Regardless, Dooley keeps a framed photo of herself, Frances Keyes and ASU mascot Roscoe in her room to commemorate the occasion. ■

Distinguished Carr Scholar Alumna Top Teacher

The awards just keep rolling in for Angelo State alumna **Stephanie Stoebe**.

Earlier this year, she was named the Texas Education Agency's 2012 Texas Secondary Teacher of the Year for her work with students as a reading specialist at Round Rock High School. In recognition of her accomplishments and continued commitment to education, Stoebe has now been named the ASU Alumni Association's 2012 Distinguished Carr Scholar Alumna.

With the aid of a Carr Scholarship, Stoebe earned her ASU master's degree in 2000. She has traveled extensively with her military husband, teaching in several states and South Korea before settling in Round Rock.

Since winning the teacher-of-the-year award, she has taken a position mentoring English language arts teachers at the

Round Rock Office of School Improvement. Although she now teaches teachers, she is never too far from the students.

"It's important that I am always in the classroom," Stoebe said. "I want to keep one foot grounded in what is going on every day. I couldn't be an instructional director if I didn't have an idea about what was going on with the teachers. I wouldn't be an effective coach, so I volunteer in classes and will always consider myself a teacher."

With her awards in tow, Stoebe keeps moving forward in her new role.

"The biggest challenge in education right now is a hot topic regarding relevant and rigorous instruction for students learning English," Stoebe said. "We are experiencing large population growth, a lot from immigration. If we want to have a productive society and a stable economy in Texas,



Stephanie Stoebe

it is absolutely relevant that teachers be trained to deliver English instruction."

Stoebe and her husband, Walter, have one son, Zachary. ■

Distinguished ROTC Alumnus Teaching Tomorrow's Leaders

When **Lt. Col. Stephen Magnan** returned to Angelo State last year to take command of Air Force ROTC Detachment 847, he got to see it from a whole new perspective.

But the lessons he learned as a cadet at his alma mater are still as relevant as ever.

"They say that we are here putting our fingerprints on the future leaders," Magnan said. "Well, I still have the fingerprints of those ASU instructors on me, and that's happened throughout my career. Every commander, every supervisor that I've had has influenced me and made me who I am."

The ASU Alumni Association's 2012 Distinguished ROTC Alumnus, Magnan served seven years in the Air Force's enlisted ranks before being encouraged by his commander to enroll at ASU and get commissioned as an officer upon graduation. He has since spent much of his career helping others grow into leadership positions, which he considers paying it forward.

Magnan's notable Air Force career has included tours in Iraq and Afghanistan. He was also one of only 10 Air Force captains, and the only one from the intelligence community, selected for a leadership development program called Phoenix Hawk, which enabled him to work with an elite group from security forces.

A 1992 Angelo State graduate with a degree in communication, Magnan said being back at ASU has reminded him of what it was like to be a student.

"I remember doing pushups with the cadets at the football games," he said, "which is pretty nostalgic for me because now I run down there and do pushups with the cadets again."

Magnan's wife, Barb, is a retired Air Force colonel, and he has two children, Jon and Laura. ■



Stephen Magnan

Golden Ex of the Year A Life of Law

Using his time at San Angelo Junior College as a springboard, **Dr. Ewell E. "Pat" Murphy Jr.** fashioned a successful career in international law and university teaching.

A product of San Angelo public schools, Murphy attended SAJC from 1943-45 and then completed Bachelor of Arts and Bachelor of Laws degrees with honors at the University of Texas. He then headed to England's prestigious Oxford University as a Rhodes Scholar to earn a Doctor of Philosophy in 1951. But, he never forgot where it all started.

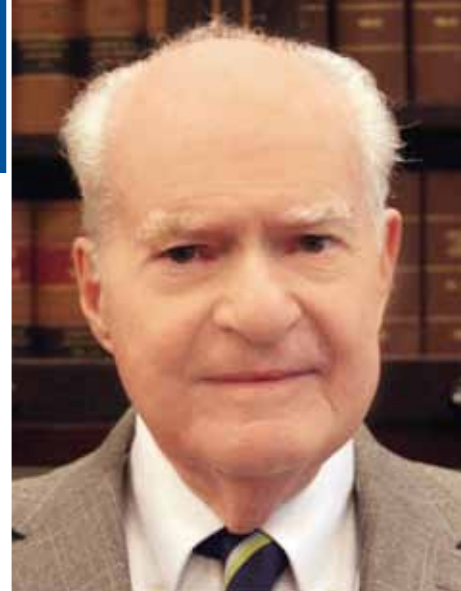
"I am deeply grateful for the excellent teaching I received in San Angelo," Murphy said, "and San Angelo Junior College was the capstone of that excellence."

After spending time in the U.S. Air Force that included a principal assignment in Saudi

Arabia, Murphy worked at the Houston-based law firm Baker & Botts from 1954-92, and was chairman of its International Department from 1972-89. After retirement from the firm, he began his teaching career as a visiting professor at the University of Texas Law School from 1993-97, a distinguished lecturer at the University of Houston Law Center from 1996-2006 and an adjunct professor at UHLC continually since 2007.

Despite his time away from San Angelo, Murphy made strong ties to Angelo State through the Alumni Association and the Development Office. As a result, the Alumni Association has named him its 2012 Golden Ex of the Year.

"Over the years since 1954," Murphy said, "each time I returned for brief visits with my parents, relatives and friends in San Angelo, I was amazed at the develop-



Ewell E. "Pat" Murphy Jr.

ment of my tiny, one-small-building San Angelo Junior College into mammoth Angelo State University. It is a fascinating example of the U.S. education system." ■

Distinguished Faculty Achievement Answering the Call

Dr. Sangeeta Singg considers teaching psychology more of a calling than a job.

Since her arrival at Angelo State the day after receiving her doctorate from East Texas State University (now Texas A&M-Commerce) in 1981, Singg has spent 31 years rising through the faculty ranks to full professor, directing the Counseling Psychology Program and mentoring hundreds of counseling students.

"I couldn't do an 8-5 job, sitting on a chair doing computer stuff," Singg said. "I have to feel like I'm really making a difference in somebody's life. You touch lots of lives in the 200,000 hours of practicum that I have supervised."

For her long ASU service and dedication to her students, Singg has been selected for the ASU Alumni Association's 2012 Distinguished Faculty Achievement Award.

Also extensively involved in psychology research, Singg has been published 34 times, including peer-reviewed articles for professional journals and contributions to four books. She has also directed or mentored 77 graduate student theses, 51 research courses and four student Carr Research Scholarship projects.

"I like everything about the job," she said, "but what I like best is to be able to inspire and motivate students. It is especially gratifying when you see students who started here without much confidence, like ugly ducklings, who by the end of the program had turned into beautiful swans flying away."

In addition to her faculty duties, Singg has participated in numerous professional organizations throughout her career and has served on various community boards and committees, including the American



Sangeeta Singg

Heart Association, Rape Crisis Center and many others.

She also holds a bachelor's degree from Punjab University in India and master's degrees from Mississippi State University and East Texas State. ■

Outstanding Retired Faculty Lifelong Commitment

For more than three decades, **Dr. John Duke** played an integral role in the growth, development and success of the ASU Mathematics Department.

From his arrival in 1968 to his retirement in 1999, Duke dedicated his life to developing and teaching rigorous mathematics courses that gave students not only exposure to that area of learning, but also a firm foundation for further study.

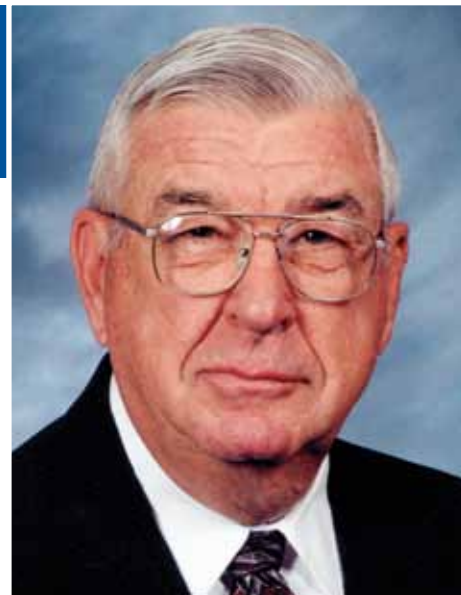
"The main reason for my teaching," Duke said, "was my desire to instill in others, insofar as possible, a germ of curiosity for learning, to help them realize the importance of that venture and to aid them in attaining some success in that endeavor."

For his lifelong commitment to ASU and his students, Duke has been named the ASU Alumni Association's 2012 Distinguished Retired Faculty, which means something very specific to him.

"Since most of my academic life was spent teaching mathematics rather than engaging in mathematical research," Duke said, "this particular award recognizes, in part, the importance of general knowledge, rigor and clarity of presentation, and encouragement of academic curiosity both in and out of the classroom."

While at ASU, Duke also served on the university's Research, Curriculum, Tenure and Library committees, and the Graduate Council. But his main focus was always on working with his fellow faculty on behalf of the students.

"My thoughts on the highlights of my teaching career naturally turn toward certain individuals – students whom I have helped in some small measure to accomplish some of their goals and prepare for their future work," Duke said. "I am indebted to them for their probing and



John Duke

questioning of concepts and methods, which gave me the incentive to strive to improve my presentation of certain topics in the classroom."

Duke and his wife, Betty, are retired in San Angelo and enjoy connecting with his former students via e-mail at bdd_jwd@suddenlink.net. ■

Distinguished Staff Achievement Student Advocate

Wendy Storms plays a key role in shaping the next generation of Texas public school teachers.

A former teacher herself, Storms utilizes that experience as director of Educator Support Services (ESS) in the ASU College of Education. Storms oversees the Educator Preparation Information (EPI) Center, which provides information, advising and support services to undergraduate and graduate students planning or continuing their careers in education.

"The EPI Center is really here to help any student with certifications," she said. "Even though we are under the College of Education, we service any department that has certification degrees."

For her ongoing commitment and support for students, Storms has been selected by the ASU Alumni Association for its 2012 Distinguished Staff Achievement Award.

"I like seeing the bigger picture," Storms said. "Before this, I was dealing with pre-student teachers, student teachers, the community, principals and cooperating teachers. In this job, I get to add advising, certification and accreditation, which is all part of the bigger picture."

After earning her ASU bachelor's degree in interdisciplinary studies-elementary education, Storms taught elementary school for several years. She returned to ASU for her reading specialist master's degree and then oversaw the university's Field Experiences program for student teachers. She also previously co-directed the Teacher Education Department's Pearl of the Concho Writing Project before taking her current position.

As she had previously planned a career as a teacher, it was not an easy decision for Storms to leave the classroom for ASU.



Wendy Storms

But now she finds her rewards helping the teachers of tomorrow.

"I had to do a lot of praying and soul-searching for what to do when considering a career change," she said. "I would never have guessed I would come here, but I am sure glad I did because I love what I do." ■

Bestselling Blogger

by Jayna Phinney



Jenny Lawson

Angelo State alum **Jenny Lawson** composes such entertaining blog posts that she receives millions of page views every month.

So it should come as no surprise that her memoir, *Let's Pretend This Never Happened*, debuted at No. 1 on the *New York Times* best-seller list this spring.

In her book, Lawson discusses everything from growing up in Wall with a taxidermist father and creating a Facebook page for a 5-foot-tall metal chicken to the more serious topics of experiencing mul-

illness. Her work showcases her talent for storytelling and uses her quick wit to find the humor in nearly any situation.

Capitalizing on her book's popularity, Lawson went on a reading tour that she described as fascinating, wonderful and terrifying, all at the same time, and that included a stop in San Angelo.

"I have anxiety disorder, so doing a reading tour was so scary, but so rewarding," Lawson said. "It was standing-room-only at almost all of the tour stops. The highlights have been people bringing me taxidermied animals. Also, hearing from people about how I've helped them understand their own and others' mental illness."

Even before her fans got to see it, prospective publishers were just as interested in Lawson's book. A two-day auction that Lawson described as "nerve-racking but exciting" was conducted among 12 publishing houses for the book rights.

"I interviewed with a bunch of the houses to find out which editor would work best for me," Lawson said. "I had no idea how different their styles could be."

The posts on Lawson's blog, **thebloggess.com**, are as varied as the chapters in her book, although mental illness and dealing with its many inherent issues are recurring topics because of the feedback she gets from readers.

"I've had a lot of people tell me," Lawson said, "that they decided not to kill themselves because they saw the response I got on my mental illness pieces and

then decided to get help because they realized they weren't alone after all."

The seeds for Lawson's entertaining and insightful prose were sown while she studied journalism at ASU. Her time at ASU was also significant because she met her husband, Victor, while they were both students. But, there were also less intense moments along the way.

"One of my favorite classes was astronomy," Lawson said. "I'd confused it with astrology when I signed up, but I enjoyed hanging out in the Planetarium. It was fascinating, and I also had some of the most deeply relaxing naps in those laid-back chairs."

After graduating in 1997, Lawson spent 15 years working in human resources before deciding to write full time.

"I never got away from writing," Lawson said, "and I naturally fell into blogging about six years ago."

When she is not working on her own projects, Lawson also contributes to the *Houston Chronicle's* Good Mom/Bad Mom blog. In all of her writing, she strives to be honest with her readers while still maintaining her privacy.

"I only share about 5 percent of my life, but I'm very open about things most people are afraid of talking about," Lawson said. "I do have my boundaries, though. I don't write about where I live or about anything that I think might embarrass my daughter when she's older."

To the delight of her fans, Lawson is now planning a follow-up book.

"It took me 11 years to write the first one," she said, "so hopefully this one will come together more quickly." ■

Return of the Ring



Charles Robertson with his 1971 class ring

Sometimes all it takes is a little 21st-century technology and an alumni bond to get the job done.

In the late 1990s, Angelo State University student Jerrod Pitcock was working for a contracted cleaning service on the carpets in a San Angelo movie theater when he came across an ASU ring with the engraving "D. Robertson B.B.A. 1971."

"I went home and called all the Robertsons in the phonebook, but I couldn't find the owner," Pitcock said.

He put the ring in a box with some of his personal belongings and knick-knacks, and basically forgot about it. It was not until this year, when his son and daughter were playing with the box, that his wife, Amber, also an ASU alum, saw the ring and decided to try once more to find the rightful owner.

"I just did a Google search and typed in exactly what it said on the ring," Amber said.

The search returned a result for a San Angelo businessman by the name of Charles "Dick" Robertson, whose full name is Charles Dreher Robertson, though "Dick" has always been his nickname. Amber decided it was worth a try, so she called his office and left a message. Sure enough, the ring was his.

"I was thrilled to death," Robertson said. "I've never experienced something so strange in my life. It's been 41 years since I got that ring. It's been lost for about 15 years. That they even held onto it for so long is surprising."

Pitcock returned the ring to Robertson, and the pair have plans to get together sometime with their spouses.

"They're younger graduates taking care of an older graduate, so it's special," Robertson said.

A former ASU Alumni Association board member and president, Robertson bought a replacement ring several years ago. Now he alternates between wearing the old ring and the new one. ■



Each issue of the *Angelo State University Magazine* highlights selected alumni and invites you to visit the Angelo State University Alumni Association website for the latest on your former classmates. To learn more about Angelo State alumni, visit www.angelostatealumni.com.

Better yet, see what your friends are up to and then update the site with news about you, your family and your accomplishments.

1980

Saundra Paschal, a mathematics teacher at Lake View High School in San Angelo, has been recognized by *Cambridge Who's Who* for showing dedication, leadership and excellence in all aspects of mathematics education.

Specializing in algebra and pre-calculus education, Paschal is a skilled teacher with nearly 30 years of experience, most as a mathematics teacher for Lake View, where she teaches algebra II and pre-calculus math classes and coaches the mathematics team. Paschal holds an ASU Bachelor of Science in mathematics with a minor in biology.

1984

The University of Texas at El Paso's College of Health Sciences has named **David Wittenburg** to chair the Department of Kinesiology. The appointment took effect in August.

Wittenburg has 25 years of experience in kinesiology. He received his bachelor's degree in physical education from ASU and his master's in exercise science from Texas State University. He earned his Ph.D. in kinesiology from Texas A&M.

1985

Wanda C. Merritt has been named HUD's new director for the Lubbock field office after serving as the acting field office director since September of 2011. She will be responsible for overseeing the delivery of HUD programs and services throughout the 71-county area encompassing West Texas, Far West Texas, Panhandle and South Plains. Merritt earned an M.B.A. and a B.B.A. in business management from ASU.

1991

Mika Schneider has been named a partner in Soukup, Bush and Associates, a Fort Collins, Colo., certified public accounting firm representing clients in a broad range of business activities in northern Colorado and the Denver metropolitan area. Schneider was one of two employees elevated to partner status, the first time in 12 years the firm has added partners.

Schneider holds a Bachelor of Business Administration from ASU. Her family includes a 6-year-old daughter, Erin, and 4-year-old son, Ian.

1992

Jimmy Humphrey, executive vice president of Environmental Protective Solutions and assistant dean of students at Lipscomb University, has been named a VIP member of *Worldwide Who's Who*, which honors individuals for exceptional personal and professional success.

With Environmental Protective Solutions, Humphrey specializes in business development and operational planning in support of indoor environmental conditions for commercial properties, such as hotels, schools and hospitals. With Lipscomb University, Humphrey is primarily responsible for establishing programs supporting military veteran students.

Humphrey received a bachelor's degree in kinesiology at ASU in 1992.

1995

Martin Chavez has been named Poteet chief of police from among 19 applicants vying for the position. He has 17 years of law enforcement experience, including an appointment as chief of police in Somerset from 2009-10.

Chavez, who has been a Poteet patrolman for the past two years, holds a bachelor's degree from ASU, a graduate degree from Texas A&M-Kingsville and a master peace officer license.

1999

Farrah Gomez has been promoted to principal of Lee Middle School in San Angelo. Gomez had been the principal of Fannin Elementary School for the past three years. A San Angelo native, she is a graduate of Central High School and ASU.

2006

Midland Lee High School Assistant Principal **Roberto Cedillo** has been named the High School Assistant Principal of the Year by the Region 18 Texas Association of Secondary School Principals.

This is Cedillo's third year as an administrator and sixth year at Lee. He currently serves as assistant principal for instruction and administrative services and taught Spanish and coached baseball for his first three years at Lee.

The Midland High School graduate attended Western Texas College in Snyder for two years, then graduated from ASU with a bachelor's degree in Spanish.

2012

James R. Jackson has been named Texas AgriLife Extension Service agriculture and natural resources agent in Coke County after graduating from ASU in May with a master's degree in range and wildlife management. He previously earned his bachelor's degree from ASU in natural resource management.

in memoriam

Dr. David Sterling Marsh, 59, professor of biology for 29 years, died June 25 in San Angelo after a yearlong battle with brain cancer. Biology Department Head Russell Wilke said his colleague "always believed it was a privilege to serve students and particularly enjoyed working with them on the Health Professions Advisory Committee and his sensory physiology research. His greatest reward was when they went on to achieve greatness. To his credit, nearly all of his research students went on to earn M.D.s and Ph.D.s." Marsh was very active in the Texas Academy of Sciences, serving on many of its committees and as its president.

Dr. Guoqiang "Joe" Zheng, 57, professor of history, died May 30 in San Antonio after a lengthy illness. Zheng joined the ASU faculty in 1999. Originally from China, he came to the U.S. more than 20 years ago to earn his Ph.D. at the University of Toledo after receiving a B.A. and M.A. from Tianjin Normal University. History Department Head Ken Heineman described him as an "earnest scholar and intellectual, filled with the wisdom that comes from knowing that one is blessed to live in a state of freedom." A prodigious scholar, Zheng produced 53 book reviews, numerous articles, two dozen encyclopedia entries and a book just published this year.

Alexander "Alex" Soto Cano, 36, former university archivist, died June 13 near Knickerbocker. Cano held both bachelor's and master's degrees in history from Angelo State University. After earning his M.A., he received a Fulbright Scholarship to teach English in Madrid, Spain. He also taught in Japan and China.

Intramurals – continued from page 23

Flag football alone has about 50-80 students occupying five fields per hour from 6 p.m. to midnight, five nights a week during the fall.

"The numbers are consistent throughout our major sports," Whitaker said. "Softball's numbers are probably a little higher because you are looking at 10-11 people on a team compared to seven on a football team. Softball is probably our biggest sport with a rough estimate of 400 students a night."

"It gets pretty competitive in all our major sports," he added. "By the time the campus semifinals roll around, the teams all want to advance."

Besides flag football and softball, the major sports are volleyball, soccer and basketball. Other sports and activities include tennis, badminton, disc golf, Ultimate Frisbee, kickball, intramural T-shirt design, racquetball, table tennis, dodge ball, sand volleyball and golf. Dodge ball and disc golf are the most recent additions as UREC staff work to stay abreast of what the students want.

"Most of the time, we introduce a new sport in the fall and one in the spring," Whitaker said. "We run them a couple of years and see if they are successful. We've offered some sports that haven't been successful, like wiffle ball, but we have brought in others, like kickball, that have been a success."

UREC is also looking at branching into activities that do not have a physical component. Under consideration are a college football bowl "pick'em" contest and a March Madness college basketball bracket.

"We'll use websites like ESPN," said Petty, "and just have a UREC page or an ASU intramural page where all the students can sign up. They'll win an intramural T-shirt just like they would in any other intramural competition."

To notify students of all their activities, UREC staff hang flyers on campus; post on their Facebook page, the UREC website and RamPort; and distribute mailbox stuffers. They also host information booths during

Rambunctious Weekend at the start of each fall semester, and during Discover ASU and SOAR (Student Orientation, Advising and Registration) events for new students during the summer.

"Katherine Thoreson, our secretary, reviews all the marketing aspects for the department and creates the original flyer production, brochures and posters," Petty said.

"I have seven intramural student supervisors who hang flyers on bulletin boards," Whitaker added.

A recent improvement to the intramurals program is the formation of the ASU Intramural Sports Advisory Council, which helps teams fund trips to regional and national tournaments so team members no longer have to totally pay their own way.

"It has gotten a lot better in the past year," said Reid Jackson of IM Legends. "We started the Intramural Sports Advisory Council, so now we get expense money from SOLF (the Student Organization Leadership Fund in the Center for Student Involvement). My first several years, we paid all our expenses except for a little help from UREC. For the most part, we now pay \$200-\$300 out of pocket."

Regardless of who is putting up the money, ASU teams have made it pay off with their top national finishes in both basketball and flag football.

"I was surprised when we went to nationals with the co-ed team and went through all those big schools," Jackson said. "You would think you would see better athletes, but we were legitimately better than those big schools."

Decker, who also plays for Wolfpac and IM Legends, agreed.

"A lot of people think that we are just Angelo State, a small school and no big deal," he said. "But the competition at ASU is as good as the competition at nationals. You go and see teams from Florida, Texas and other big schools like those and you think, 'Oh man, they have thousands more students,' but we go out there and beat them." ■

as of July 12, 2012

alumni association century club

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Mickey and Renee Long, Midland
Mike Millegan, Basking Ridge, N.J.
Milton Nickel, Polson, Mont.
Louie and Amy Perez, San Angelo
J. Milton and Terri Swift, Montgomery

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Dan and Terri Herrington, Boerne
Randy and Emma Russell, Round Hill, Va.
Frank Sturzl, Lakeway

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Gary Baty, Horseshoe Bay
Kyle and Pam Box, San Angelo
Larry Clark, Richmond
Dale and Sherry Dodson, Plano
Richard and Debra Farr, San Angelo
C.B. Franke, San Angelo
Ronald and Carrol Harrison, San Angelo
Lt. Gen. Ronnie D. and Maria Hawkins, Washington, D.C.
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Takeo Ishimasa, Eatontown, N.J.
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Allen and Mesha Millsap Jr., San Antonio
John Norman, Houston
Lloyd and Sheri Norris, San Angelo
Eric and Kimberly Peterson, San Angelo
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Mike and Ruth Wheeler, San Angelo

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Clayton Boling, San Angelo
Gary and Leslee Bowen, San Angelo
Dr. Russ and Frances Boyles, Odessa
Bo and Michelle Brannon, Granbury
David and Rebecca Bray, San Angelo

Dean Buchanan, Cedar Park
John Castillo, San Angelo
Oscar Corral, McAllen
Curry Dawson, Canton
Alex and Kay Decuir, Irving
Troy and Lisa Deubler, Irving
Norman and Linda Dierschke, San Angelo
Joel Dunnington, Missouri City
Van and Angela Echols, Lubbock
Brad and Mercyla Fly, San Angelo
Wayne T. Franke, Austin
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Marc and Karissa Gonzales, Washington, D.C.
Wes and Laren Green, San Angelo
Courtney Hargis, Kerrville
David and Jo Nell Harlow, San Angelo
Grady Harlow, San Angelo
Joey and Leziye Henderson Jr., Christoval
David and Carol Herreman, Lewisville
Ferd and Cindy Hoefs, San Angelo
Joe and Jenny Hoelle, San Angelo
Mindy Hohensee, San Angelo
Virginia Hunt-Edmiston, Murphy
Col. (Ret) Joe Hurst, Boerne
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Mitch Landry, Pflugerville
Lorenzo and Leslie Lasater, San Angelo
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Dr. W. Bonham and Marcille Magness, Houston
Dr. Brian and Patti May, San Angelo
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James Truelove, Richardson
Mike Vallandingham, Austin
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Johnell Vincent, San Angelo
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Kim Besch, San Angelo
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Dianna Cain, San Angelo
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Teresa Christensen, San Angelo
Roger Collins, San Angelo
Cayce Cowan, San Angelo
Patrick Dunagan, San Angelo
Theresa Eoff, San Angelo
Marco Escobar, San Angelo
Angie Everett, San Angelo
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Angel and Becca Flores, Christoval
Yantis and Sheryl Green, San Angelo
Megan Grewing, San Angelo
Sara Halfmann, San Angelo
Aaron Hargett, San Angelo
Owen Harrison, San Angelo
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David Jacobo, San Angelo
Mario Luna, San Angelo
Lori Manship, San Angelo
Scott and Sueann Martin, San Angelo
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Amy Morgan, San Angelo
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Eric Smith, San Angelo
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Ronnie and Pauline Willmann, San Angelo
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Michael Bridges and Nancy Taylor, San Angelo
Cornelius and Michelle Chinn, San Angelo
Col. John and Elaine Diggins III, San Angelo
Gilbert and Sylvia Gallegos, San Angelo
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Jim and Kim Jones, San Angelo
Kendall Jones, San Angelo
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Royce and Tana Pysen, San Angelo
Byron and Belinda Sawyer, San Angelo
Lloyd and Sheri Woodfin Jr., San Angelo

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Elene Wilson, San Angelo
Kimberly Woods, Houston
Eric Zeitler, Bulverde

SMALL BUSINESS CLUB
Friendly Flower Shop, San Angelo
Legend Jewelers, San Angelo
Legacy West Investment Services, San Angelo

BLUE BUSINESS CLUB
Reflections Hair Salon and Day Spa, San Angelo

Print Shop – continued from page 25

“Henry’s cousin told me they were hiring at the school, and it would probably be a better position than where I was at the time,” Carrillo said. “So, I was thinking the school district and applied over there, but the printer there wasn’t aware of any openings so he feared they were hiring me to replace him. When nothing happened, I called Henry’s cousin who told me not the school district, but the university was hiring.”

Carrillo continued, “A few months after I got here, I told Henry I am going to grow old here because I enjoy what I do so much that time is just going to fly. I still say that to this day.”

For both Begil and Carrillo, the thrill of printing remains in taking an electronic file and converting it to paper with all the vibrant colors that are attainable on the computer screen. It is a task that never gets old because of the challenge. Full-color printing

Underground – continued from page 31

“The bad news about having stuff direct buried is when you start having a leak, sometimes finding it is like finding a needle in a haystack,” Halbert said. “Unless water surfaces somewhere, you don’t know where it’s going on. Sometimes you’ll see us digging holes in places trying to find things, and it becomes a little more complex and costly when you have to start digging down around pipes.”

“With a lot of those,” he continued, “you can’t just get out with a backhoe and start digging. You get to a point where you have to manually have people with shovels because you don’t want to break lines or knock holes in things with a big piece of equipment.”

Thankfully, pipe breakages and other major malfunctions are infrequent occurrences, and the most challenging job

is, after all, only an illusion made possible by superimposing dots of cyan, magenta, yellow and black ink over one another.

“My challenge,” said Carrillo, “is how much better can I make it, you know when the dots line up perfectly and you can actually see a freckle on a face in such detail. Getting that from a bunch of dots always amazes me. Every time I see a design, I always look at it and think this is going to be a fun job. I always try and push myself, so that when I see something in design, I try to imagine what it would look like in print, then I shoot to make it look that good, taking it from my mind to the paper.”

They share a pride in their work similar to what the families of graduating seniors feel when they open a commencement program and see the names of their children. The difference is Begil and Carrillo know all the work and overtime that went into making that program possible. ■

for Mechanical Services workers remains keeping campus building temperatures within guidelines, particularly when battling the West Texas heat. With thousands of students, faculty and staff constantly opening and closing doors in all the buildings, it can put a major strain on the cooling system.

Also, because of the TTUS temperature guidelines, it is almost impossible to adjust campus buildings to everyone’s optimum temperatures. While they probably cannot please everyone all the time, Halfmann said the best job satisfaction he receives is when the crew finishes a repair or addresses a work order complaint about the heating or cooling system not working properly.

“It’s nice to know that you can please 7,000 people with your work,” he said. ■



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